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National report submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21*

Nigeria

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I. Background

1. The report presents efforts by Nigeria to fulfil its voluntary commitments to the Human Rights Council and accepted recommendations during the Universal Periodic Review Second Cycle in 2013.

2. Nigeria accepted 172 recommendations during the second cycle review and promised to examine 34 recommendations and provide response at the twenty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council. Most of the recommendations have to do with the abolition of death sentence. Nigeria rejected ten recommendations concerning decriminalization of offences relating to sexual orientation or gender identity. The accepted recommendations have been grouped into thirty-six clusters to simplify the report. Efforts at addressing the concerns are found in section D of this report.

3. The report also presents significant developments, achievements and challenges in the implementation of Nigeria's voluntary commitments to the Human Rights Council.

Methodology and consultation process

4. The Federal Government of Nigeria constituted an inclusive inter-ministerial National Committee on Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The Committee adopted a multi-tiered and participatory approach in producing the report. The Committee had representatives of government, civil society and the academia made extensive consultations with relevant stakeholders in the country. It made use of several background reports and submissions from Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

II. Developments since the second review

5. Strengthening of civil-military cooperation in the fight against terrorism, insurgency and other internal security operations through:

(a) Review of training curriculum for the military and law enforcement agencies to include modules and information on international human rights, international humanitarian law on civilian protection during internal security operations. Documents such as Civil-Military Cooperation Theoretical Training curriculum for Nigerian Defence Academy and Civil Military Cooperation Doctrine for the Armed Forces and other security agencies were produced;

(b) Government respected the award of compensation and payment of One hundred and Thirty- Five Million Naira made by the National Human Rights Commission in favour of the families and victims of an unlawful killings and attacks on some commercial motorcycle operators in Apo, Abuja;

(c) Establishment of directorate of Civil-Military Relations headed by two star Generals in the offices of the Chief of Defence Staff, Chief of Army Staff, Chief of Air Staff and Chief of Naval Staff;

(d) Appointment of a Human Rights Adviser in the Office of Chief of Defence Staff;

(e) Establishment of Human Rights desk in the Army Headquarters and divisions of the Nigerian Army;

(f) Production and dissemination of the revised Code of Conduct and Rules of Engagement for Armed Forces to armed forces personnel during internal security operations.

6. Constitution of Presidential Committee on the Northeast Initiative (PCNI) to coordinate all interventions and oversee the recovery and rehabilitation of the Northeast. The PCNI mandate among other things is to promote synergy among all Humanitarian and development actors engaged in the region.

7. Development of National Policy Framework and Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in November, 2017. The Policy Framework and Action Plan were put together by a technical working group comprising government departments and agencies, faith-based organizations, trade unions, professional bodies, political parties and civil society organizations.

8. Reforms of the criminal justice system through the enactment of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act in 2015. The law strengthens procedural system in the areas of investigation, prosecution, and delay in trial of cases, protection of witnesses and judges and to ensure prompt dispensation of justice.

9 Also, the Fourth Alteration Act, 2018 amended the Constitution to provide for timelines within which to hear and determine pre-election matters. Furthermore, the "Not Too Young to Run"Act was enacted to open the political space for Youth participation in the political process by reducing the age limit to contest.

Implementation of National Cyber-Security Policy and Strategy

10. The Cyber-Security Strategy (NCSS) was developed in 2014 to define the nation's readiness to safeguard and prepare Nigeria in advance for global economic competitiveness in cyberspace. A key component of the NCSS is the provision for Data Protection and Privacy as contained in Section 4 (4) (1) of NCSS.

11. The Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) has taken steps aimed at realizing the objectives of data protection and privacy in Nigeria. Also, following the passage of the European Union General Data Protection Regulation on 25 May 2018, the Nigeria Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), commenced the process of reviewing the existing draft guidelines for Data Protection, which was issued in 2017 as part of NITDA's regulatory mandate for the ICT sector in Nigeria. Additionally, NCC issued the Lawful Interception of Communications Regulations in 2015.

12. The Act provides for data traffic to be kept by service providers. Thus, NCC set up a Working Group comprising representatives from ONSA, Mobile Network Operators (MNOs), Internet Service Providers (ISFs) and EFCC on 2 May 2018 to determine modalities for data retention by MNOs and ISPs. The Nigeria Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), has conducted several workshops across the 6 geo-political zones in Nigeria aimed at equipping citizens with fundamental knowledge as well as share best practices on staying safe in cyberspace.

Countering Violent Extremism Programme (CVE)

13. The programme aims at stemming the tide of radicalization in the country, reducing violent activities, change the behaviour of violent extremists and promoting core national values. The programme has three streams:

(a) Counter Radicalization;

(b) De-radicalization; and

(c) Strategic Communication.

14. The following projects and activities were carried out under the CVE programme:

(a) Education Summit to raise awareness of the importance of education as a tool for CVE;

(b) Piloting creative curriculum that encouraged critical thinking and logical reasoning;

(c) Positive Voices Campaigns to promote community champions that stand up for tolerance and national identity;

(d) Mapping of religious centres and faith-based organizations (FBOs);

(e) Identification and training of imams to present moderate Islamic views;

(f) Identification, registration and training of FBOs, CSOs and NGOs to aid the overarching goals of countering violent extremism;

(g) Town hall and community dialogue meetings to improve internal community relations and relationship with the state;

(h) Survey of economic activities and employment and income generation schemes for communities;

(i) Reintegration of reformed extremists to their families and communities;

(j) Media initiatives that form a counter-narrative.

National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

15. Nigeria is finalizing its National Action Plan on Human Rights and Business. This Action Plan is developed in response to the call by the United Nations to address negative impact of business on the realization and enjoyment of human rights and promote mutually beneficial relationships between businesses and the communities where they operate. Stakeholders have produced a draft document to be adopted by the Federal Government.

16. The Human Rights and Business Action Plan enumerates the commitments and obligations of government to protect human rights by outlining actionable items to address business related human rights abuses focusing on stakeholders identification and analysis, employment matters, casualization and contract employment, land acquisition, environmental matters, compensation, gender sensitivity and integration, community development and consultations, security, conflict resolution, reporting and monitoring compliance among others.

Establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Technical Working Group to develop a database of missing persons in Nigeria

17. To have a credible and accurate data on the number of persons killed or missing as a result of violent crimes, the federal government constituted a national technical committee on the establishment and management of a database of missing persons in June 2016.

18. The database is an independent mechanism aimed at responding to the rights of affected families to know the fate and whereabouts of their missing relations. The technical committee is working on certain documents necessary for the establishment of the database. These include Standard Operating Procedures, Case Entry and Consent Forms for data collection.

Justice sector reforms

19. Since the last review, Nigeria has implemented many initiatives to improve the effectiveness, accessibility, accountability, transparency and fairness of the justice system. Some of the initiatives include:

(a) Development of justice sector reform action plans;

(b) Establishment of judicial research and training centres;

(c) Review and production of simplified court users guide;

(d) Training in IT for justice sector officials including court staff, investigators, prosecutors, police and prison staff;

(e) Development and production of a National Legal Aid Strategy;

(f) Development and production of National Policy on Prosecution and Code of Conduct and Prosecutorial Guidelines for Federal Prosecutors.

Social and economic reforms

20. Nigeria committed to improving the social and economic standard of its people. To actualise this, Government had developed a social and economic master plan known as Economic Recovery and Growth Plan covering 2017–2020 (ERGP).

21. The Economic Recovery and Growth Plan addresses the SDGs three dimensions of economic, social and environmental sustainability issues. The vision of the ERGP is sustained inclusive growth through increased national productivity and achieving sustainable diversification of production to grow the economy for maximum welfare of the citizens.

22. The plan includes massive investment in the people, health and education sectors to meet the international targets set by the SDGs. The ERGP will improve the accessibility, affordability and quality of health care and rolls out the National Health Insurance Scheme across the entire country.

III. Implementation of accepted recommendations in the 2nd cycle of the review

Recommendations 135.1-6: Sign and ratify outstanding human rights treaties and optional protocols

23. During the period under review, Government has ratified the following human rights instruments:

(a) The Maritime Labour Convention;

(b) The Paris Climate Change Agreement; and

(c) The African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention).

Recommendations 135.7–10, 14–25, 28–31: Incorporate in national legislation the international human rights instruments to which Nigeria has acceded

24. Nigeria had enacted the following laws to incorporate the international human rights instruments to which Nigeria is a party:

(a) Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act, 2015 (VAPP);

(b) Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 (ACJA);

(c) Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act, 2015;

(d) HIV/AIDS (Anti-Discrimination) Act 2014;

(e) Anti-Torture Act 2017;

(f) Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act, 2017;

(g) National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment (Establishment) Act, 2017;

(h) Niger Delta Development Commission (Establishment) Amendment Act, 2017.

Recommendation 135.9: Reinforce anti-corruption laws

25. Government has taken several measures to strengthen the fight against corruption. These include the following:

(a) Harmonization of the three Anti- Corruption strategies (documents) namely; the Nigeria Anti-corruption Strategy, the National Anti-Corruption Action Plan and the National Strategy to Combat Corruption to produce the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Document;

(b) Nigeria joined the Open Government Partnership (OGP) in 2016 to make government open, accountable, and responsive to citizens. The alliance is a partnership between government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), working in collaboration with civil society on specific commitments. It is geared towards fiscal transparency;

(c) The Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 was enacted to eliminate delays and fast-tracking trial of corruption;

(d) The Proceeds of Crime Bill, 2017 is pending in the National Assembly. The Bill if passed into law will complement the existing legal and institutional frameworks for the fight against corruption;

(e) The Whistle Blower Policy of the Federal Government is a great incentive to citizens to report acts and hidden proceeds of corruption. A bill in this regard had been passed by the National Assembly;

(f) Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, Act, 2017 was passed to combat corruption and improve the image of the country by:

(i) Assisting Nigeria to repatriate looted funds and other proceeds of crime in foreign countries;

(ii) Enhancing effective prosecution of border crimes;

(iii) Enabling Nigeria to obtain evidence, identify suspects and witness.

(g) The Treasury Single Account ensures the absence of multiple banking arrangements and prevent funds from being easily diverted;

(h) Bank Verification Numbers strengthens the security of banking transaction. It exposes proceeds of crime, particularly corruption and financial crimes hidden with pseudonyms in the banking system;

(i) Separation of the Nigeria Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) from the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) and the signing of the Executive Order No. 6 of 2018 on the Preservation of Assets connected with Serious Corruption and other Relevant Offences.

Recommendations 135.21, 100–105: Abolish female genital mutilation

26. Section 34 (1) (a) of the Constitution protects the dignity of human person by stating that every individual is entitled to respect to the dignity of his or her person and accordingly no person shall be subjected to inhuman or degrading treatment. Nigeria has implemented this recommendation through the enactment of the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act 2015(VAPPA). This Act eliminates violence in private and public life; prohibit all forms of violence including physical, sexual, psychological, domestic violence; harmful traditional practices; discrimination against persons and provide maximum protection and effective remedies for victims and punishment of offenders.

Recommendation 135.21: Ensure access to justice for women who are victims of violence

27. The Constitution guarantees access to justice for everyone, and provides for pro bono legal assistance to indigent persons in the enforcement of their fundamental rights. VAPPA is already a law that is being implemented in Nigeria. This law provides access to justice for women who are victims of violence, ensures that perpetrators of the crime are punished and remedies are provided to the victims and those affected.

Recommendations 135.32–34: Continue to strengthen the capacity of human rights institutions

28. Government increased the budget of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to N3 Billion Naira. Government is not interfering in the operation of the human rights institutions including respect for its decision and award. Government paid the award of compensation in the sum of One hundred and Thirty- Five Million Naira as directed made by the National Human Rights Commission for families/ victims of an unlawful killings and attacks on some commercial motorcycle operators in Apo, Abuja. Further, since August 2015 the National Human Rights Commission has been holding regular civil-military dialogue. The objectives of the Dialogue include:

(a) Improving awareness of respect for human rights by the military;

(b) Prevention of human rights violations by the armed forces during internal security operations;

(c) Speedy investigation and resolution of allegation of human rights violations by military personnel including holding perpetrators accountable;

(d) Mainstreaming respect for human rights in military operations;

(e) Providing a sustainable platform for national and international human rights organizations to constructively engage the Nigerian armed forces.

29. Nigeria is finalizing its second National Action Plan (NAP) for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights covering 2017 to 2022. The second NAP document was put together through broad consultations. The policy document sets out a road map to build a better human rights culture and by giving effect to Nigeria's international human rights commitments and obligations. The document contains emerging issues such as:

(a) Rights of Persons with disabilities;

(b) Rights of Internally Displaced Persons;

(c) Human Rights and Business;

(d) Terrorism and insurgency;

(e) Racial Discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance.

30. Nigeria is also in the process of finalizing its National Action Plan on Human Rights and Business. This Action Plan is being developed in response to the call by the United Nations on member states to address negative impact of business on the realization and enjoyment of human rights and promote mutually beneficial relationships between business and the communities where they operate.

31. The Human Rights and Business Action Plan enumerates the commitment and obligations of government to protect human rights by outlining actionable items by the Federal Government to address business related human rights abuses.

Recommendations 135.35–43: Ensure cooperation with international human rights system of the United Nations to protect and promote human rights:

32. Nigeria continues to support the mechanism of the Universal Peer Review monitoring system. Areas of cooperation between Nigeria and international human rights system of the United Nations since the last review in 2013 include the preparation of the Nation Action Plan and Guiding Principles on business and human rights, extension of standing invitation to all Special Procedure Mandate Holders and submission and successful defence of periodic reports to the Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2017.

33. Nigeria has consistently cooperated with International Criminal Court on matters which she is being investigated and also in her several Country statements at the sessions of the Court. Nigeria's cooperation with the international human rights system of the United Nations is borne out of her strong belief and respect for the rule of law and human rights, and her firm commitment to the sanctity of fundamental freedoms at international and domestic levels, as ingrained in the objectives for the establishment of the United Nations international human rights system.

34. Nigeria has been cooperating with human rights mechanism such as the extension of standing invitation to all Special Procedure Mandate Holders, who seeks special visit to Nigeria. During the period under review, a number of Special Procedure Mandate Holders had visited Nigeria. These includes: the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Pornography, Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Special Rapporteur on Mental and Physical Health, as well as the Special Rapporteur on Internally Displaced Persons. Furthermore, Nigeria is currently processing requests from about seven Special Procedure Mandate Holders who have indicated interests to visit Nigeria. The Government is working stridently to ensure a successful visit by these mandate holders. Nigeria has also submitted its periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and successfully defended them in 2017. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) cooperated with the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GHANRI) for re- accreditation process and was re-graded "A".

Recommendation 135.44: Ensure the implementation of the 2011 EU observation mission recommendations concerning the equal political participation by providing assistance to IDPs

35. Government has initiated the process of domesticating the following International Treaties ratified by Nigeria:

(a) The United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees;

(b) The Protocol to the Status of Refugees;

(c) The OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa;

(d) The African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa; and

(e) The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

36. Government ensured that the internally displaced persons were granted equal political participation by providing polling booths at all IDP Camps during the 2015 General Elections. On the protection and promotion of the rights of vulnerable person such as the minorities, children women, older persons, IDPs, human rights defenders, refugees and prisoners, Government has been providing protection and assistance with the support of development partners.

Recommendation 135.44: Ensure prosecution of people involved in election violence

37. Incidences of election violence before, during and after the 2015 elections were investigated and perpetrators were prosecuted. The National Human Rights Commission also issued a pre-election report and advisory on violence in Nigeria's 2015 general elections. This election advisory indicated instances where criminal responsibility could arise either through campaign activities or hate speech and warned all parties to exercise caution during and after the elections. The advisory also included recommendations to political parties, the government, the Electoral Commission, security forces, judiciary, media, religious and faith communities, the civil society and other relevant members of the international community.

Recommendations 135.45, 46, 47: Adopt legislative and administrative measures to eliminate harmful cultural practices that hamper the realisation of human rights

38. Section 34 (1) (a) of the Constitution protects the dignity of human person by stating that every individual is entitled to respect to the dignity of his or her person and accordingly no person shall be subjected to inhuman or degrading treatment. In addition, the following legislative measures aim at combating harmful cultural practices.

Legislative measures

(a) Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act 2015;

(b) Prohibition of child marriage and child betrothal under Sections 21 and 22 of the Child Rights Act 2003;

(c) Prohibition of tattoos and skin marks under Section 24 of the Child Rights Act;

(d) Prohibition of Child trafficking by the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act 2015;

(e) Anambra state Gender and Equal Opportunities Law, 2007;

(f) Cross River State Law to Prohibit Girl-Child Marriages and Female Genital Circumcision or Genital Mutilation, 2009;

(g) Ekiti State Gender Based Violence (Prohibition) Law 2011;

(h) Imo State Gender and Equal Opportunities Law No 7 of 2007;

(i) Lagos State Protection Against Domestic Violence Law 2007;

(j) Cross River State Law to Prohibit Girl-Child Marriages and Female Genital Circumcision or Genital Mutilation in Cross River State, 2000;

(k) Rivers State Dehumanizing and Harmful Traditional Practices Law, 2003;

(l) Edo State Law on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) 2000.

Recommendations 135.48, 50: Ensure that training of military, law enforcement officials and civil servants include human rights components in line with the world programme for human rights education

39. Human rights curricular have been introduced in the training institutions of the various armed forces, the Nigerian Police Force and other law enforcement agencies in order to inculcate in the trainees the universal human rights values. Government has organized and will continue to organize human rights education and training for police and

military officers to sensitize them on human rights issues through the National Human Rights Commission.

Recommendations 135.49, 52, 83–89, 92–96, 166: Ensure protection of the rights of children

40. Chapter IV of the Constitution guarantees to all Nigerians fundamental rights. Further, section 17 (3) (f) of the Constitution provides that Government shall direct its policy towards ensuring that children are protected. Government domesticated the Convention on the Rights of the Child as the Child Rights Act. Nigeria enacted the Child Rights Act (Enforcement Procedures) Rules, 2015 for the enforcement of child rights in the Family Courts. Other interventions being implemented by Government to ensure the protection of the right of the child include:

(a) The Home Grown School Feeding Program (HGSFP) – Program is aimed at increasing the enrolment and completion rate at primary school level. Currently 5.5 million primary school pupils are beneficiaries. The programme has also resulted in improving nutrition and health of the pupils;

(b) A legislation that prohibits the use of children in armed forces and in armed conflict. Section 34 of the Child Rights Act prohibits the use or recruitment of children into the Army or the use of children in any armed conflict. Sections 30-33 of the Child Rights Act also prohibit the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

(c) the "Year of Action to End Violence against Children in Nigeria" 2015-2016;

(d) The Launch of a Campaign to End Child Marriage in Nigeria and a National Strategy to End Child Marriage in Nigeria 2017-2021.

Recommendations 135.51, 129, 134, 144–157, 159: Further develop the education sector

41. Section 18 (1) and (3) of the Constitution mandates Government to direct its policy towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels.The Government has scaled up efforts to provide qualitative and accessible education for all. Free basic education is provided for all children in public schools up to the junior secondary schools while affordable education is provided for senior secondary and tertiary education.

42. Governments put in place legislative and policy frameworks to develop the education sector. The legislative and policy frameworks include the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, Universal Basic Education (UBE) Act 2004, Child's Right Act 2003 /Child Rights Law of states and Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), the National Policy on Education (Revised 6th edition), National Policy on Education, 6th edition, 2013, Training Manual on Adaptation and Implementation of Inclusive Education in Nigeria, 2010, A Strategic Framework for the Revitalization of Adult and Youth Literacy in Nigeria, 2012, National Child Policy 2007; National Policy for Integrated Early Childhood Development in Nigeria (2007);National Minimum Standard for Early Child Care Centres in Nigeria (2007);National Gender Policy on Education 2007; National Framework on Girls' and Women Education, 2012;Guidelines for Implementing National Policy on Gender in Basic Education, 2007 and National Policy on Gender in Basic Education, 2007 - Gender Education Desk, 2011.

43. Further, Government is implementing some programmes to develop the education sector. The programmes include revitalisation of the Adult and Youth Literacy (RAYL) Programme, 2016. A total of 5,101,719 (5.1 million) learners enrolled in the programme between 2013 and 2015 in 146 focused local government areas. About 4.5 million (4,589,637) of them have been made literate, and 4,807 facilitators were also graduated. A total of $6.4 million dollars was made available for the project by the Federal Government, aimed at reducing illiteracy level in Nigeria and building a critical mass of educators for

literacy and life skills acquisition. Governments established and equipped Community Learning Centres in 13 States.

44. The sum of N42, 205,872,257.88 UBE Matching Grant was disbursed to 26 states and FCT. The sum of N851, 502,975.66 special Education Grant was disbursed to 23 states and private Providers of special Basic Education and 2,220,000,000.00 of teacher Professional Development Fund to 33 states and FCT. A total of 538 schools across the country have received support through direct intervention. In each school, two blocks of two classrooms with twenty pieces of furniture, a head teacher's office and store have been provided.

45. Government has provided N2.5b for improving Special Education. Also, Government is partnering with notable development partners in the North East presidential Initiative to rebuild and restore normal academic activities in the region.

46. Under the safe School Initiative, Government has successfully transferred 2,274 out of 2,400 internally displaced children from Adamawa, Borno and Yobe to 43 Federal Government Colleges. Government has registered 200,000 IDP children in double shift school system, recruited 554 teachers, procured and distributed 112 containerized classrooms to the various IDP Camps in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states.

47. Government has invested over N7b into the UBE Professional Teacher Development Programme, culminating in the training of 31,520 teachers across the States of the Federation.

48. Copies of the revised Basic Education with 34 trade Subjects and the new Senior Secondary Education curricula were distributed to schools nationwide and the e-curriculum launched to increase easy access to the document. As part of government's effort in improving teacher capacity and professional development, 800 graduates' teachers were trained in teaching pedagogy and 813 students graduated with post Graduate Diploma in Education in affiliation with National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN).

49. At basic Education level, massive monitoring of projects including the Almajiri schools has been carried out. Schools for the girl-child under construction are almost 90% completed. Within the framework of promoting non-formal education, 32 schools for the nomads have been rehabilitated and three vocational schools were established.

50. Government has built and furnished 44 e-libraries building in 44 Federal Government Colleges to felicitate teaching/learning and reading culture in students during the period under review.

51. The joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) has upgraded all Computer Based Test Centres to a minimum of 250 carrying capacity and successfully automated change of course/institution, Printing of admission letter, printing of result slip and correction of data. Also 20, Braille-note Apex Computer for visually impaired candidates were procured to enable them participates fully in UTME, with minimal stress. As a result of these innovations, Jamb has successfully conducted the unified Matriculation (UTME) within the period under review with minimal problems.

52. To improve Technical and Vocational Education and training (TVET), teachers' Assessment Guide/Instructional materials to aid the teaching of the new curriculum in Technical and vocational education (TVE) for the attainment of sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was developed. National Business and Technical Examination Board (NABTEB) e-learning center through Public-private-Partnerships has been completed and is functional. Scanners, Braille Machines and books for examination purposes such as capturing of objective scores for candidates and physically challenged learners were purchased. Government carried out accreditation of 487 programmes in 51 Technical, Vocational Entrepreneurial institutions.

Recommendations 135.51, 129, 134–143, 158: Further develop the health sector

53. Nigeria is committed to promoting and protecting the rights of Nigerian to basic health and welfare through legislative, policy, strategic and administrative measures. In addition to the Constitution, Government has put in place the following legislative and policy measures; the National Health Act No. 8, 2014, National Tobacco Control Act 2015, HIV/AIDS (Anti-Discrimination) Act 2014, The National Agency for the Control of AIDS (Establishment) Act No.2 2007. Nigeria is a party to the UN Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals, which includes the right to health. The National Health Policy 2016 aims at strengthening the national health system in order to provide effective, efficient, quality, accessible and affordable health services, as well as adequate primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare services for Nigerians.

54. Government has the developed the National Strategic Health Development Plan (NSHDP) 2010-2015. Since the plans' development and subsequent launch, they have been implemented to varying degrees at both the national and State levels as evident by the Joint Annual and the Mid-Term Reviews that were regular features of the plans and the End Term Evaluation which was carried out at the end of the implementation of the plan. The End Term Evaluation revealed that significant progress was made towards the expected targets but we could not meet the targets for most of the indicators in 2015. The only indicator of the first plan that was met in 2015 was the adolescent birth rate which dropped from 126/1000 to 74/1000 adolescent women.

55. The National Council on Health, the highest policy making body on health matters in Nigeria approved the extension of the implementation of the first plan to 2016. The second National Strategic Health Development Plan (NSHDP II) 2018-2022 is anchored on the New National Health Policy (2016) which has been developed taking into consideration Nigeria's aspiration to attain Universal Health Coverage (UHC) for all Nigerians, leveraging on functional 10,000 PHCs across the country, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) unfinished business and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Economic Growth and Recovery Plan (ERGP) 2017-2020.

56. The second plan takes a more comprehensive, inclusive and the holistic approach. It is organized along five strategic pillars; (i) Enabled Environment for attainment of sector outcomes which focuses on Leadership and Governance, Community Participation and Partnership for Health; (ii) Increased Utilization of Essential Package of Health Care Services which covers RMNCAH and Nutrition, Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases, Mental Health, Care of the Elderly, NTD's etc; (iii) Strengthened Health System for Delivery of Package of Essential Health Care Services which focuses on Human Resources, Health Information System, Medicines, Vaccines and other Technologies, Research etc; (iv) Protection from health emergencies and risks as well as (v) Increased Sustainable, predicable Financing and Risk Protection which only focus is Financing Health.

57. Further, to improve exclusive breast feeding rate, the Federal Ministry of Health is collaborating with Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment to fast track the implementation of paid extension of paid maternity entitlement from 16weeks to 18weeks and continue advocacy to 24weeks (which is 6months) in line with the resolution of the 59 National Council on Health Resolution.

58. Government is implementing task shifting and task sharing policy to ensure that health care providers are available in the rural and hard to reach areas. Government has demonstrated its commitment to universal health coverage by allocating, for the first time in Nigeria, 1% of the Consolidated Revenue Fund towards the funding of key health initiatives, in compliance with the National Health Act in the 2018 Budget.

Recommendations 135.53, 54: Ensure progress towards the promotion of human rights

59. Since August, 2015 the National Human Rights Commission has been holding regular civil-military dialogue. The objectives of the Dialogue include:

(a) Improving awareness of respect for human rights by the armed forces;

(b) Prevention of human rights violations by the armed forces during internal security operations;

(c) Speedy investigation and resolution of allegation of human rights violations by military personnel including holding perpetrators accountable;

(d) Mainstreaming respect for human rights in military operations;

(e) Providing a sustainable platform for national and international human rights organizations to constructively engage the Nigerian armed forces.

Recommendations 135.55, 60–63: Enhance gender equality and empowerment of women

60. Section 42 (1) of the Constitution prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender by stating that a citizen of Nigeria of a particular sex. Similarly, section 17 (3) (e) of the Constitution provides that there is equal pay for equal work without discrimination on account of sex, or on any other ground. The Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill seeks to ensure equal opportunities and treatment of women and men.

Recommendation 135.56: Ensure implementation of the national action plan on the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 to involve women in peace process

61. Government has developed and published the National Action Plan for the implementation of the UN security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions. The National Action Plan (NAP) resonances Government's commitments as well as its responsibilities in ensuring the security of women and enhancing their active and direct participation in identifying early warning, conflict prevention, peace building and post conflict remedy. NAP provides a road map for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325.

Recommendations 135.57–59: Adopt measures to improve the socio-economic conditions of women

62. The Government of Nigeria is committed to guaranteeing equal access to political, social and economic opportunities for women and men. Consequently, government has established the lead national and state gender machineries; the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and Ministries of Women Affairs in the 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory. Government has also embarked on numerous programmes to boost women's economic empowerment. Some of these are: Business Development Fund for Women (BUDFOW) and National Women Empowerment Fund.

63. The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, in partnership with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the Bank of Industry (BOI) have provided financial empowerment to women through their various initiatives, such as Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Fund as well as the Agricultural Financing Scheme.

Recommendations 135.56, 64–67, 105, 97–100: Step up action to prevent violence and discrimination against women

64. Section 42 of the Constitution guarantees and protects the rights of women from discrimination. Under section 46 (1) of the Constitution, women who are victims of violence and discrimination may apply to a High Court for redress by way of fundamental rights enforcement proceedings in the event of the application of any law that allows violence and discrimination against them. In addition, government enacted the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act.

65. The Act seeks to eliminate violence in private and public life, prohibit all forms of violence including physical, sexual, psychological, domestic, harmful traditional practices, discriminations against persons and to provide maximum protection and effective remedies for victims and punishment of offenders. Under the ACJA, women can now stand as sureties for any applicant or defendant for the purpose of admitting the person to bail. Hitherto this was not possible.

Recommendations 135.67, 82, 122–128: Adopt measures to eliminate religious intolerance and hatred

66. The Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) was established by the FGN primarily as a research Institute, national peace building and conflict management think-tank and policy adviser with broad mandate under Section 8 of the IPCR (Establishment) Act, 2007 on peace and conflict related subjects in Nigeria and Africa. The Institute's work is geared towards the promotion of human rights in conflict situation through research, peace intervention and advocacy, and collaboration especially in northeast Nigeria. The IPCR is concerned with the conditions of vulnerable groups in conflict situation such as the women and children that are mostly victims, whether displaced from their communities, maimed, abducted, forced as cooks, porters, suicide bombers, child soldiers, sex slaves, 'wives' etc. some other initiative of the institute include:

(a) The Institute is collaborating with relevant national and international institutions to enhance the capacities of religious and community leaders on cultural and religious harmony. The Institute has initiated and convened two separate interfaith dialogue meetings for religious leaders across the country in Kaduna. Recently, the Institute convened two separate intra-religious dialogue sessions for Muslim and Christian leaders, and also organized a National Interreligious Conference for leaders across the country in Abuja. There are other interfaith engagements for women and youth religious leaders that the Institute implemented in partnership with other organizations such as the African Council of Religious Leaders, Religion for Peace, ECOWAS and the African Union (AU);

(b) In furtherance of efforts towards the promotion of human rights in the Institute is activated the Infrastructure for Peace (I4P), brought together policy formulators and implementers as a national platform for understanding the socio-economic, political and cultural contexts of peace and security trends in the country. This is important because human rights violations in the country arose as a result of socio-economic, political and cultural dynamics at play within the society.

Recommendations 135.68–72, 170: Put in place necessary steps to prevent extra-judicial killings

67. Section 33 (1) of the Constitution guarantees the right to life. Similarly, the Penal and Criminal Codes prohibit extra-judicial killings. Consequently, Government has zero tolerance for any form of cruelty such as ill treatment and extra judicial killings. Security officers that have been found culpable irrespective of their position have been made to face the full weight of the law.

Recommendation 135.71: Adopt measures to hold security forces accountable for human rights violations

68. Section 46 (1) and (2) of the Constitution is a legislative measure to hold security forces accountable for human rights violation. The section states that any person who alleges that any of the provisions of this Chapter has been, is being or likely to be contravened in any State in relation to him may apply to a High Court in that State for redress.

69. To ensure respect for human rights by security forces, the federal government set up a Presidential Investigation Panel to investigate all alleged cases of human rights violations by the Nigerian military personnel.

70. The Panel was set up in August 2017 and had among others the following terms of reference:

(a) Review extant rules of engagement applicable in the Armed Forces of Nigeria and extent of compliance thereto;

(b) Investigate matters of conduct and discipline in the Armed Forces in local conflicts and insurgencies;

(c) Recommend means of preventing violation of international human rights and humanitarian law in conflict situations.

Recommendations 135.72–75, 121: Adopt measures to prevent torture and the use of force by security agents

71. Section 34 (1) of the Constitution prohibits torture in any form. Government enacted the Anti-Torture Act 2011 as amended in 2013. The Act prohibits torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment by law enforcement agents and provides punishment for perpetrators of such acts.

Recommendations 135.76-81, 170: Strengthen measures aimed at improving security in the country

72. Section 14 (1) (b) of the Constitution imposes obligation on Government by providing that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government. Government has embarked on several initiatives to reduce the menace of Boko Haram terrorism and insurgency in the country. There is 90% drop in the number of terrorism related deaths in Nigeria. More than 12,000 persons taken hostage by the insurgents including 106 abducted Chibok and the 113 Dapchi girls were freed.

73. Boko Haram insurgency has been largely curtailed. Civil authorities have been established in the areas affected by the insurgency. Significant efforts have also been made to protect internally displaced persons in camps across the north eastern part of the country. Several military operations are on-going in aid of civil authority for effective security maintenance of law and order in areas affected by Boko Haram insurgency.

Recommendations 135.90 and 91: Continue efforts aimed at preventing human trafficking

74. Government has established the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons. With the re-enactment of the Human Trafficking Law in 2015, NAPTIP is strengthened to deal with the scourge of Child Trafficking by carrying out sensitization programmes in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Institutions. NAPTIP has been training and re-training the Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Police Force, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Federal Road Safety Commission, Department of State Security, National Intelligence

Agency, Office of the National Security Adviser, Lawyers and Judges to improve on the strategies for detecting and combating the crimes.

Recommendations 135.106–112: Improve conditions in detention facilities including the behaviour of police officers and how overcrowding in prisons is tackled

75. Nigeria is committed to maintaining the United Nations' Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. The Nigerian Prisons and Correctional Service Bill currently undergoing legislative processes is geared towards addressing issues related to the physical conditions in Nigerian prisons, including overcrowding and physical abuse of prisoners.

76. The Nigerian prison services and other correctional facilities are being upgraded through the efforts of the Ministry of Interior. Effective Prison Reforms are being made by the present Administration to improve the existing facilities and structure including through the on-going exercise on prison decongestion. Government has also made it a policy to investigate and address all allegations of human rights abuses in our prison and correctional facilities. Nigeria is also committed to training and retraining of Prison officers in order to ensure that they adhere to minimum standard while attending to detainees.

77. The Federal Ministry of Justice has in collaboration with Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO) and other CSOs undertaken monitoring of police activities. Zonal and State Committees have been mandated to undertake "Ombudsman" review of complaints against the police. The State Governments are also making efforts to improve condition in the detention facilities. The Chief Judges of the Federal Capital Abuja and the 36 States of the federation do undertake prison visits. During such visits, prison inmates who have been unlawfully detained are released either unconditionally or on such terms as to guarantee their appearance.

78. The Nigerian Police Force established the Complaint Response Unit in November 2015 to address complaints of allege human rights abuse against police personnel. The Unit is domiciled in all States Commands and the Force Headquarters. The Force also created a human right desk in the force headquarters and all the 36 state commands to ensure that the rights of citizens are respected and complaints are promptly attended to and solved.

79. The force has also made it a policy to organise human rights education and training for all its personnel to sensitize them on human rights issues and to ensure that they respect and comply with such provisions in the course of their duties. A number of organisations have also supported the police with training on human rights issues. These organisations include the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), UK Department for International Development (DFID) and CLEEN Foundation. The Nigeria Police force has also trained its officers on the need to respect and implement the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 2015.

80. The police force in partnership with the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria (LACON), The Rights Enforcement and Public Law Centre (REPLACE) and Open Society Justice Initiative (OSJI) launched the Police Duty Solicitor scheme (PDSS). The scheme ensures free legal services for arrested or detained persons in police formations.

Recommendations 135.113–120: Facilitate access to justice

81. Section 17 (1) (e) of the Constitution states that the independence, impartiality and integrity of courts of law, and easy accessibility thereto shall be secured and maintained. To fastrack the administration of criminal justice, the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 (ACJA) was enacted. The ACJA makes provisions for pre-trial remand on the orders of the court. This enables the court to supervise pre-trial detention in order to prevent arbitrariness and abuse by law enforcement agencies.

(a) Corruption and Financial Crimes Case Trial Monitoring Committee. This is a new committee set up by the Chief Justice of Nigeria early 2018 to monitor the trial of

corruption and financial crimes cases in various courts. This will enhance expeditious, diligent and transparent disposal of corruption and financial crimes cases by the courts;

(b) Special Panels of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal. Special Panels of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal were set up by the Chief Justice of Nigeria, which in a matter of months disposed of several corruption and financial crimes cases some of which had been pending in court for years;

(c) Practice Directions: Between 2013 and 2017, heads of various appellate courts and High Courts both at the Federal and State levels have issued Practice Directions to fast –track the trial and disposal of corruption and financial crimes cases. These are: the Supreme Court (Criminal Appeals) Practice Directions 2013; Court of Appeal (Fast Track) Practice Directions, 2014; Federal High Court Practice Directions, 2013 and the Practice Directions of the Federal Capital Territory, 2017;

(d) Justice Sector Reform: The reform initiatives embarked upon by the Federal Government in collaboration with the States and CSOs has resulted in the following outputs:

(i) The development and adoption of the national policy on Prosecutions, 2014 and its supplementary Code of Conduct for Prosecutors in Nigeria and Guidelines for Prosecutor;

(ii) The enactment of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act 2015.

(e) Trial of Boko Haram members. In July 2018, 113 members of Boko Haram were convicted, 111 were discharged and acquitted while 73 cases were adjourned for continuation of trial. In February, 2018, 331 cases were tried. Two hundred and five (205) of the members of the Boko Haram were convicted. A total of 526 suspects were discharged while 73 cases were adjourned. In October 2017, 45 members of the Boko Haram were convicted, 1669 were remanded while 468 were discharged.

Recommendation 135.115: take necessary measures to ensure that the Child Rights Act 2003 is incorporated into the legal system of states of the federation

82. The Child Rights Act 2003 is the only law in Nigeria that sets a minimum age of 18 years for marriage. So far 24 states out of 36 states have adopted the law; the states that are yet to adopt the law being in the Northeast and Northwest of the country. However the federal government through the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development is working with relevant child rights stakeholders including other ministries, departments and agencies of government, CSOs and faith based organisations, to ensure that states that are yet to adopt the law do so.

Recommendations 135.130–133: Continue efforts to guarantee access to adequate housing

83. Section 16 (2) of the Constitution provides that the State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that suitable and adequate shelter are provided for all citizens. Government is constructing 2,736 pilot scheme housing units in 33 states of the federation. Federal Government allocated N35 Billion Naira in the 2018 budget for National Mass Housing Programme. Further, Federal Mortgage Bank and Federal Housing Authority are Government institutions established with the purpose of providing housing needs of Nigerians. Additionally, the National Housing Fund Act established the National Housing Fund whose aim is to facilitate the mobilization of funds for the provisions of housing needs of Nigerians at affordable prices.

84. Government is also introducing an initiative to engage cooperative societies in national housing programme. In addition to the efforts by the Federal Government to guarantee access to adequate housing, the 36 States and Federal Capital Territory are implementing various housing schemes.

Recommendations 135.160–163: Ensure promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable persons

85. Nigeria is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, among others. In addition, a number of international instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (Minorities Declaration) are binding as customary international law.The Fundamental Human Rights (Enforcement Procedure) Rules, 2009 empowers the Courts to interpret and apply the human rights provisions of the Constitution and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights expansively and purposely with a view to advancing and realizing the rights and freedoms contained in them.

Recommendations 135.164-165: Adopt measures to protect the rights of ethnic and other minority

86. Government has produced Guiding Principles for the distribution of posts in the public service. The Guiding Principles deals exclusively with the distribution of jobs and posts, which provides for equal percentage of persons from each State of the country to occupy public positions at the national level. Furthermore, Government recognises that there is the need to mainstream gender into the labour force of the country particularly the traditional marginalised groups such as women and the physically challenged.

87. Section 14 (3) of the Constitution states that the composition of the Government of the Federation shall be carried out in a manner to reflect federal character, thereby ensuring that there is no predominance of persons from a few state, ethnic or other sections in the government. Section 14 (4) of the Constitution similarly protects the rights of minorities in the states by providing that the composition of the Government of a state or local government areas should be in a manner as to recognize the diversity of the people in the state or local government areas in order to promote a sense of belonging and loyalty among all the peoples. The Federal Character Commission has been active in driving this policy.

Recommendation 135.166: Adopt measures to promote the Migrant Workers Convention

88. Government has taken a major step in implementing Nigeria's commitment by initiating the process of domesticating the following International Treaties ratified by Nigeria:

(a) The United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees;

(b) The Protocol to the Status of Refugees;

(c) The OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa;

(d) The African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa; and

(e) The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.

Recommendations 135.167–169: Continue to take measures to guarantee the right to sustainable development

89. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the centrepiece of the current development agenda in Nigeria. In an effort to domesticate, integrate and mainstream the

SDG into the medium and long-term National Development plans for effective planning, adequate budgeting and overall successful implementation across the nation, the office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals is working assiduously in partnership with the Ministry of Budget and National Planning. Further, the office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals partnered with the National Bureau of Statistics and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and conducted a mapping exercise of existing SDGs related data and established baseline data which will be useful in benchmarking SDGs progress. The SDGs Office has undertaken a number of activities to provide strategic direction and impetus to the national commitment on the SDGs. These include but are not limited to:

(a) Development and Dissemination of the MDGs End-Point Report in collaboration with the UNDP, DFID, MDAs and other stakeholders;

(b) Development of the Country Transition Strategy to the SDGs;

(c) Development of Action Plan to guide SDGs implementation;

(d) Rollout of SDGs Needs Assessment and Costing Exercise in partnership with the Ministry of Budget and National Planning, the MDAs as well as the UNDP;

(e) Data Mapping and Determination of 126 Baseline SDGs Indicators to benchmark progress through partnership with the National Bureau of Statistics;

(f) Partnership Agreement with UNDP to mainstream the SDGs at subnational levels;

(g) Establishment of institutional mechanisms such as the Presidential Council on SDGs, SDGs Committees in both chambers of the National Assembly, Inter-Ministerial Committee for MDAs coordination and a subnational partnership framework through the Conditional Grants Scheme;

(h) Multi-Stakeholder engagement mechanisms such as the Private Sector Advisory Group, Donors' Partnership Forum on SDGs, Civil Society Strategy Group on SDGs, amongst others; and

(i) Mobilization of influencers such as SDGs Ambassadors and SDGs Champions for SDGs advocacy.

Recommendation 135.11: Harmonisation of the legal system of the country

90. Legal pluralism is an overarching principle of the Nigerian legal system. It enables the co-existence of a number of legal systems within the Nigerian territory, subject to the rules for resolving conflict and inconsistency. It has allowed the received English law, customary law and Islamic law to subsist side by side. The Federal and State Governments are determined to give due recognition and respect to the pluralistic character of the Nigerian legal system and support the even development and strengthening of the system of administration justice, with due regard to its plural character, as provided by the Constitution. To this effect, the Nigeria Law Reform Commission, State Law Reform Commissions and other justice reform bodies have continued to place in their law reform agenda a review and strengthening of the systems for the administration of Islamic law and customary law, and propose appropriate legislation, policies and other interventions for improvement.

91. The Federal Government in compliance with the constitutional requirement in appointing of Justices of the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court does include adequate number of judges learned in Islamic and customary law. In the same vein, the Governments of States where High courts administer Islamic and customary laws will take into account the need for judges learned in these two systems of law to be included in the appointment of High court judges. Government is determined to give Islamic law and customary law and the courts that administer them commensurate regard and consideration in the implementation of the various interventions adopted through the National Policy on Justice

without any discrimination, and with due regard to the plural components of the legal system.

Recommendations 135.171-172: Mainstream human rights standard in counter-terrorism actions

92. In compliance with the First Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Conflicts in the Field, Second Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of the Armed Forces at Sea, Third Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, Fourth Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as Amended), Nigerian Army Handbook on Domestic and international Laws Guiding the Conduct of Operations and the Nigerian Army Policy on Human Rights 2016 and in fulfilment of his command responsibility to officers and men of the NA, as well as to give effect to the directives from the President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Chief of Army Staff issued the Chief of Army Staff's Policy Directive to commanders at all levels to prevent violations and improve compliance with Nigeria's domestic and international laws guiding the conduct of operations by Nigerian Army personnel.

93. The policy directives require all personnel of the Nigerian Army to comply with the principles and spirit of the International Human Rights Law during all Internal Security operations and other Military Assistance to Civil Authorities operations that the Nigerian Army may be deployed to in accordance with sections 217(2) a, b, c, d, and 218(3) of CFRN 1999 (as Amended).

94. Furthermore, in compliance with the Chief of Army Staff Policy Directive on Nigerian Army Comprehensive Programme to improve Compliance with Domestic and international Laws Guiding the Conduct of Operations 2018, Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, Nigerian Army Handbook on Domestic and International Laws Guiding the Conduct of Operations, 2018 and the Terrorism Prevention Amendment Act, 2013, the Chief of Army Staff issued the Chief of Army Staff Directive on Standing Rules of Engagement and Standing Rules for the Use of Force for the Nigerian Army. The Chief of Army Staff Directive on Standing Rules of Engagement and Standing Rules for the Use of Force for the Nigerian Army was issued in furtherance of the Presidential Directive issued by the President and Commander-in- Chief on 25 May 2015 during his inauguration to overhaul the Rules of Engagement to avoid human rights violations in operations.

Recommendation 135.15: On the protection of persons with disabilities

95. A National Disability Bill, which seeks to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and establish a National Disabilities Commission, is currently pending in the National Assembly. The National Human Rights Commission has a disability desk and has carried out many significant initiatives to address disability issues, including working with CSOs in this area and have employed a handful of persons living with disability. The Government of Plateau State has established the Plateau State Disability Rights Commission. The Commission has been training Legislators and Government officials on the rights of People with Disabilities.

Recommendation135.126: Continue strengthening the role of the Inter-Religious Council in order to deepen the ethical values and fight against the moral corruption so that extreme and radical ideologies are eradicated from the society

96. The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC unveiled an Inter-Faith Anti-Corruption Preaching and Teaching Manual in 2014 as part of its efforts to combat corruption in the country. The Commission came to the unassailable conclusion that

successfully combating corruption and financial crimes would take more than enforcement of laws. It was obvious that because Nigeria is deeply religious country, one of those groups that would have the most far-reaching and sustained impact on our people is the faith-based group.

97. Realizing the need to harness critical stakeholders' inputs into the anti-graft campaign, the EFCC reached out to organized and semi-formal groups, which include students and women bodies, town unions and age grade groups, professional and social associations, religious bodies and other special interest associations. The manual, which focuses on utilizing the Muslim and Christian Platforms to engage the public in fighting corruption, is the outcome of a National Inter-faith Forum on Corruption organized by the Commission.

IV. Challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in Nigeria

98. The challenges contained in the second cycle UPR report remain the same, though the current federal and state governments are working very hard to overcome these challenges and several reforms and initiatives are yielding positive results. Some of the main challenges are:

(a) Plural nature and size of the country: the multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious nature of Nigeria creates practical difficulties for the harmonization of views, strategies and programmes for the promotion and protection of human rights in the country;

(b) Legal System: the legal system in Nigeria is pluralistic and composed of customary law, received English law, legislation and Sharia law. Majority of Nigerians conduct their personal activities in accordance with and subject to customary and Islamic personal law. These laws have great impact in areas such as marriage, inheritance and traditional authorities. Some of the customary norms are in conflict with human rights standards. It would take a long time before government efforts in raising public awareness among the people to embrace tolerance, have liberal disposition on customary matters and respect legislation and constitutional provisions aimed at reforms of cultural behaviour to yield the desired result;

(c) Although the current administration in the country has introduced many reforms to tackle the menace of corruption in public and private sectors of the economy, the menace is still deeply rooted in the society. Corrupt tendencies pose serious threat to the enjoyment and realization of human rights as resources that would have been available to improve the standard of living of citizens found their way into private hands. Government is however committed to wipe out corrupt behaviours in the public and private spheres of our national life;

(d) Internal security is becoming more challenging owing to the proliferation of organized criminal syndicates across the country. The incidence of blue-collar crimes and transnational criminality in the country is greatly affecting the realization of human rights. Government is however not resting on its oars to ensure prevention and detection of crimes and holding perpetrators accountable in accordance with respect for rule of law;

(e) Difficulties in breaking through entrenched mind set on harmful traditional practices affecting the human rights of women and children.

V. Request for technical assistance

99. To improve on its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights in a sustained manner, Nigeria requires technical assistance from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the following areas:

(a) Development and application of human rights indicators to assess effective implementation of national and international human rights obligations of Nigeria;

(b) Training of staff of Federal and State Ministries of Justice and Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning using the Human Rights Indicators;

(c) Capacity development of staff of relevant Federal and State institutions in applying rights based approach in the formulation and implementation of development policies and programmes including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and African Union Agenda 2063;

(d) Training of security and other relevant institutions in mainstreaming human rights standards in counter-terrorism strategy. This include development and production of appropriate tools;

(e) Institutional and capacity development of staff of the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) and other relevant government departments to develop appropriate tools for research and mainstreaming human rights based approach in peace building and reconciliation;

(f) Assistance in the development of appropriate truth and reconciliation mechanisms to address increasing divisive trend in the country and to hold perpetrators of systematic violation of human rights accountable.

100. Nigeria will further articulate these requests and submit them to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for appropriate action.

VI. Conclusion

101. The Government of Nigeria is committed to the promotion and protection of human rights not only in Nigeria but in the world as a whole. This informed its cooperation with other countries in Africa and across the globe to enhance global realization of human rights. The Government remains determined to improve the well-being of its citizens, especially the vulnerable including women and children. It sees the promotion and protection of human rights as a continuous process. Various initiatives of government since the last review to date have clearly shown the determination of Nigeria to continue to improve on the enjoyment of human rights in the country.

102. Nigeria is fully committed to its obligations under the human rights instruments it has ratified and will continue to work hard to ensure that this translate into better living conditions and sustainable development in the country. The Federal Government believes that respect for human rights provides the foundation for enduring peace and social harmony.

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Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a compilation of information contained in reports of treaty bodies and special procedures and other relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies[1–2]

2. In 2017, the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families recommended that Nigeria consider ratifying or acceding to the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women encouraged Nigeria to do likewise.[3]

3. The Committee on Migrant Workers also recommended that Nigeria ratify the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143), the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181) of the International Labour Organization (ILO).[4]

4. The same Committee recommended that Nigeria consider making the declarations provided for in articles 76 and 77 of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications from States parties and individuals concerning violations of the rights established under the Convention.[5]

5. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that Nigeria had not submitted reports to any treaty bodies apart from the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. In 2017, the Committee on Migrant Workers reviewed the situation in Nigeria in the absence of a

report and without the participation of a government delegation. The country team considered the recommendations to have been partially implemented.[6]

6. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that Nigeria had issued a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders and had hosted four of them since the previous review. The country team considered the recommendations to have been implemented.[7]

III. National human rights framework[8]

7. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted that the federal structure of Nigeria, which established a three-tiered system of governance at the national, state and local levels, continued to present challenges for the incorporation of the Convention into the national legal order.[9]

8. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that Nigeria had given effect to some of its treaty obligations by adopting the Anti-Torture Act (2017), the Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Wounds Act (2017), the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act (2015), the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (2015) and the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act (2015). The country team considered the recommendations to have been partially implemented.[10]

9. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the country team stated that Nigeria had yet to incorporate the provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court into its domestic legal system. It considered that the recommendations had not been implemented.[11]

10. In 2016, the Special Rapporteurs on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, on the sale of children, child pornography and child prostitution, and on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, stated that Nigeria should ensure that the Child Rights Act and the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act were adopted and enforced in those states that had yet to do so.[12]

11. The Committee on Migrant Workers stated that further legislative and administrative measures were needed to fully harmonize domestic laws and practice with the provisions of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It was concerned that the 2015 Immigration Act maintained broad grounds for classifying individuals as "prohibited immigrants" liable to be refused admission or deported.[13]

IV. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Cross-cutting issues

1. Equality and non-discrimination[14]

12. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women expressed concern that the prohibition of discrimination in section 42 of the Constitution did not comprise a comprehensive definition of discrimination in line with article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It called on Nigeria to adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women, in line with that article and target 5.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals.[15]

13. The Committee also recommended that Nigeria ensure that the ongoing constitutional review process addressed the applicability of statutory, customary and Islamic personal laws, which afforded varying degrees of protection for women and girls. It

further recommended expediting the repeal or amendment of all discriminatory laws identified by the Nigerian Law Reform Commission and including religious leaders in the process of addressing issues of faith and human rights, so as to build on several "faith for rights" initiatives and identify common ground among all religions in Nigeria.[16]

14. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team noted that in March 2016, the eighth Senate had rejected the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill and that a revised version of the Bill was currently under consideration. The country team considered the implementation of those recommendations to be ongoing.[17]

15. Noting that it had been on the legislative agenda since 2011, the Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery recommended that Nigeria adopt the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill and ensure its effective implementation at all levels of government.[18]

16. The Committee on Migrant Workers recommended that Nigeria take all measures necessary to extend to migrant workers the guarantees relating to privacy, freedom of movement and protection against racial discrimination and to remove from its legislation all provisions that discriminated against foreign men in relation to the acquisition of nationality. It also recommended that Nigeria include a prohibition of direct and indirect discrimination on all the grounds enumerated in the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (arts. 1 (1) and 7) in the draft Labour Standards Act, and take all legislative and policy measures necessary to ensure that all migrant workers and members of their families, both documented and undocumented, within the territory of Nigeria or subject to its jurisdiction enjoyed, without discrimination, the rights recognized in the Convention.[19]

2. Development, the environment, and business and human rights[20]

17. In 2014, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues stated that the availability and exploitation of natural resources, and the impact of climate change in the North and Central regions, including desertification, droughts and food and water shortages, must be adequately addressed. She urged the Government to plan and implement coordinated national and state policies to fight the adverse effects of climate change and provide sustainable solutions for the use of land by the different communities with competing lifestyles and livelihoods.[21]

18. She noted that numerous oil spills had resulted in extremely grave environmental damage across the Niger Delta, causing water and soil pollution and destroying the livelihoods of many communities. She urged the authorities to take effective measures to assist the communities in need, providing health care and education facilities, and foster means for the creation of alternative livelihood options.[22]

19. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women welcomed the adoption in 2015 of a transition strategy from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals. It recommended that Nigeria explore investment and employment opportunities for women through investments in renewable energy while combating the adverse effects of climate change in the context of its efforts to implement Sustainable Development Goals 5, 7 and 13.[23]

3. Human rights and counter-terrorism[24]

20. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) recommended that Nigeria adopt or review counter-terrorism laws and policies to ensure compliance with international standards, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, notably the principles of legality and proportionality.[25]

21. OHCHR had received preliminary reports of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law allegedly committed by some government forces during counter-insurgency operations, including extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, and ill-treatment. Failures to adequately protect people from Boko Haram had also been documented. OHCHR recommended that Nigeria conduct

prompt, thorough and independent investigations into those allegations, and ensure accountability for all violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, regardless of the position or rank of the perpetrator.[26]

B. Civil and political rights

1. Right to life, liberty and security of person[27]

22. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that, while several investigations had been launched, they had not led to any prosecutions. Allegations of extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances and excessive use of force by security agencies continued to be made. The country team considered those recommendations to have been partially implemented.[28]

23. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team noted that the Anti-Torture Act 2017 did not have national application and states were required to adopt complementary legislation to ensure its enforceability. Moreover, the rules and regulations for the implementation of the Act had yet to be formulated. The country team considered those recommendations to have been partially implemented.[29]

24. OHCHR stated that Boko Haram had intentionally killed and maimed civilians in attacks throughout Borno State and in parts of Adamawa and Yobe States. Credible reports indicated that the security forces had not deployed in several cases where civilians had come under attack by Boko Haram. The inability of the security forces to protect civilians from Boko Haram attacks and the deterioration of the security situation had led to the emergence of local self-defence groups, known as vigilantes, who seemed to operate with the tacit approval of the security forces. OHCHR recommended that Nigeria take immediate steps to strengthen and expand measures to protect civilians, including in the context of counter-insurgency operations, and stop the use of vigilante groups in such operations, and that it adopt a comprehensive strategy for combating violent extremism.[30]

25. OHCHR had received confirmation that in areas affected by Boko Haram, young men were not only exposed to the risk of being targeted by Boko Haram, but also of being arbitrarily arrested and detained by the army, police or civilian vigilante groups, if suspected of being Boko Haram members.[31]

26. In 2017, the Secretary-General strongly condemned the attacks on schools, hospitals and protected personnel, as well as other humanitarian actors and facilities. He called on all parties to respect the civilian character of schools and hospitals and to allow safe and unimpeded access for humanitarian actors to affected populations.[32]

27. He urged Nigeria to abide by its obligations under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law and ensure the protection of civilians during the armed conflict.[33]

28. The Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery noted that Boko Haram had used widespread abductions of girls and boys as a part of its insurgency strategy.[34]

29. The Secretary-General referred to numerous cases of child abduction by Boko Haram, including from the school in Chibok in April 2014. The group's stated motives for such abductions included retaliation against the Government for the detention of relatives and punishment of schoolchildren for attending Western-style schools. Abduction was also used as a means to forcibly recruit children, and Boko Haram used abducted children as human shields during military operations by the security forces. According to accounts from those who had escaped or been rescued, children were subjected to rape and forced marriage, physical and psychological abuse, forced labour, forcible religious conversion and used in operations, including suicide attacks.[35]

30. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Nigeria intensify its efforts to rescue all women and girls abducted by Boko Haram

insurgents, ensure their rehabilitation and integration into society and provide them and their families with access to psychosocial and other rehabilitative services.[36]

31. Referring to the relevant recommendation from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that prison conditions remained harsh and life threatening. They were characterized by overcrowding and inadequate medical care, food and water. The country team considered that the recommendation had not been implemented.[37]

2. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law[38]

32. Referring to the relevant recommendations, the United Nations country team noted that the criminal justice system had been reformed through the enactment of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, which had enhanced the speedy dispensation of justice. While the Act was applicable in federal institutions, only 13 states had adopted implementing legislation. The National Policy on Justice (2017) had been adopted to guide the judicial reform process. The country team considered the implementation of those recommendations to be ongoing.[39]

33. The Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery noted that there appeared to be a significant gap in current responses in terms of accountability for crimes perpetrated in the context of the insurgency. Access to remedies for victims of the insurgency, including of sexual and gender-based violence, was almost non-existent for many reasons, including resistance to reporting for fear of stigma, ostracism and reprisals. The Special Rapporteurs recommended that Nigeria investigate the crimes committed by Boko Haram, prosecute and punish all those responsible in order to fight impunity, and set up witness and victim protection services for women and children affected by the violence.[40]

34. Noting that the lack of accountability and impunity were repeatedly cited as major flaws of the criminal justice system, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues stated that alleged perpetrators must be persecuted and held accountable for their crimes.[41]

35. Referring to the relevant recommendation from the previous review, the United Nations country team noted that the Legal Aid Council had been unable to provide free legal representation to those who needed it due to funding and staffing deficiencies. The country team considered that the recommendation had not been implemented.[42] The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women remained concerned at reports that access to justice for women was often impeded by insufficient budget allocations for legal aid, alleged corruption and stereotyping within the judiciary.[43]

3. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life[44]

36. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that Nigeria was supporting initiatives to enhance interreligious dialogue through facilitating engagement between Christians and Muslims. However, the initiatives had come under pressure owing to conflicts between farmers and herders, which, while ostensibly resource-based, had taken on a religious or ethnic connotation. The country team considered that those recommendations were being implemented.[45]

37. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stated that defamation was a crime in Nigeria, punishable by imprisonment. It recommended that Nigeria decriminalize defamation and place it within a civil code that was in accordance with international standards.[46]

38. The Committee on Migrant Workers recommended that Nigeria take all necessary measures, including legislative amendments, to guarantee to all migrant workers, including those in an irregular situation, the right to take part in trade union activities and to freely join trade unions, in accordance with article 26 of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.[47]

39. The Special Rapporteur on minority issues was concerned that, despite the relevant role played by women, particularly minority women, in civil society initiatives, during her visit in 2014, she had encountered hardly any women participating in Government and political leadership.[48]

40. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women remained concerned that women were still underrepresented in the National Assembly, in senior leadership positions in the diplomatic service and at the ministerial level. It recommended the introduction of temporary measures, such as quotas for political appointments and the accelerated recruitment of women to decision-making positions.[49]

41. The Special Rapporteur on minority issues noted that minorities, particularly minority women, were poorly represented in political life at all levels, especially in state and local governments. She urged Nigeria to consider affirmative action measures, including the use of quotas in political parties.[50]

4. Prohibition of all forms of slavery[51]

42. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned that Nigeria remained a source, transit and destination country for trafficking in persons, particularly women and girls, for purposes of sexual and labour exploitation.[52]

43. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) noted that, in order to address new trends in the crime of trafficking in persons, the 2003 Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act had been repealed and the 2015 Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act enacted.[53]

44. The Committee on Migrant Workers recommended that Nigeria continue to vigorously pursue trafficking investigations and prosecutions, ensure adequate sentences for convicted traffickers, provide regular training to police and immigration officials to identify trafficking victims among vulnerable populations, and strengthen the capacity of Nigerian embassies to identify and provide assistance to victims abroad, including through regular and specialized training for diplomatic and consular personnel.[54]

45. The Committee was concerned that the exception in national legislation to the prohibition of child labour applicable to children employed by family members or who took on light work of an agricultural, horticultural or domestic nature might make children vulnerable to be trafficked into domestic work by family members.[55]

5. Right to privacy and family life[56]

46. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned that, under section 26 (2) (a) of the Constitution, Nigerian women married to foreign men could not transmit their nationality to their husbands, unlike Nigerian men married to foreign women. It was also concerned that section 29 (4) (b) on citizenship renunciation legitimized child marriage, as it recognized any woman who was married to be of full age for the purposes of renunciation of citizenship.[57] The Committee on Migrant Workers raised similar concerns.[58]

47. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned that while sections 218 and 357 of the Criminal Code protected girls under 13 years of age from forced sexual intercourse, section 6 excluded the applicability of those provisions to girls of the same age in customary law marriages. It recommended repealing section 6.[59]

48. The Committee was also concerned that no specific measures had been taken to eradicate polygamous relationships. It recommended that Nigeria eradicate polygamy through awareness-raising campaigns and education.[60]

C. Economic, social and cultural rights

1. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

49. The same Committee remained concerned about discriminatory provisions in the Labour Act (1990), the Factories Act (1987) and the Police Regulations (1968), which prohibited the employment of women in night work and the recruitment of married women to the police and required women police officers to make a written request for permission to marry.[61]

50. The Committee recommended that Nigeria allocate sufficient resources for exit programmes for women wishing to leave prostitution, including by providing alternative income-generating opportunities.[62]

2. Right to social security

51. The Committee noted the efforts to promote women's economic empowerment and social welfare, including through the adoption of the Social Insurance Trust Fund Act, in 2012, and the Pension Reform Act, in 2014.[63]

52. The Committee on Migrant Workers recommended that Nigeria ensure, through national legislation and bilateral and multilateral social security agreements, that all migrant workers and members of their families had adequate social protection.[64]

3. Right to an adequate standard of living[65]

53. The same Committee encouraged Nigeria to facilitate the transfer of remittances by Nigerian migrant workers abroad. It also recommended that Nigeria take measures to facilitate the transfer of earnings and savings by migrant workers in Nigeria with preferential transfer and reception fees, in line with target 10.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, and to make savings plans more accessible to migrant workers and members of their families.[66]

54. The Special Rapporteur on minority issues noted that the Middle Belt region comprised an ethnically, religiously and linguistically diverse mosaic of groups and communities. Over past years, some states in the region had suffered episodes of intercommunal violence that, while exhibiting ethnic and religious dimensions, had root causes that were complex and multifaceted. Federal and state governments had acknowledged that socioeconomic factors, including poverty, high levels of illiteracy, unemployment and insufficient income levels, were among the underlying causes fuelling tensions and violence among groups in that region. She recommended that Nigeria urgently adopt a comprehensive national plan against poverty and social exclusion, with clear objectives and specific benchmarks and timelines for completion.[67]

4. Right to health[68]

55. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted with concern the high rate of maternal mortality, which was partly attributable to the lack of access to skilled midwives and the high number of unsafe abortions, which itself resulted from the restrictive laws that permitted abortions only in order to save a pregnant woman's life.[69] UNFPA stated that in 2017, the Government had pioneered an innovative initiative to scale up the capacity of midwives.[70]

56. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Nigeria amend the relevant provisions of the criminal codes of federal states with a view to legalizing abortion in cases of rape, incest and risk to the physical or mental health or life of the pregnant woman and severe impairment of the fetus, and decriminalize abortion in all other cases.[71]

57. The Committee noted with concern reports of high rates of infertility and miscarriage in Zamfara State owing to lead contamination. It recommended that Nigeria ensure that women and girls affected by lead contamination in Zamfara State had access to health care and that the consequences of contamination were continuously monitored with a view to providing necessary medical interventions.[72]

58. It also noted with concern the limited use of modern forms of contraception by women and girls, the fact that Nigeria had one of the highest HIV rates in the world, which disproportionately affected women and girls, especially women in prostitution, and the prevalence of malaria.[73]

5. Right to education[74]

59. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict stated that in 2017, the military had occupied 14 schools, contrary to the

commitments made under the Safe Schools Declaration. It encouraged Nigeria to honour its commitments under the Declaration.[75]

60. The Special Rapporteur on minority issues stated that appropriate actions must be taken to ensure that all children, regardless of their social status, had access to compulsory education. Special measures should be adopted to combat school dropouts, including those owing to poverty and socioeconomic factors, and to ensure school attendance of children belonging to minorities, particularly minority girls, including assessments of the situation of minority children, increased provision of minority-language education, increased funding for education and collaboration with state and local governments and civil society organizations.[76]

61. UNESCO encouraged Nigeria to adopt measures to strengthen educational opportunities for girls and women, including programmes to support girls to continue their studies and to encourage those who had dropped out of school to return.[77]

62. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted with concern that many women and girls in north-east Nigeria had dropped out of school owing to the Boko Haram insurgency.[78]

63. UNESCO encouraged Nigeria to improve the school environment and strengthen educational programmes to counter harmful traditional practices, especially by including them in the human rights education curricula.[79]

64. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Nigeria ensure adequate funding, logistics and provision of food to schools under the school feeding programme and ensure the sustainability of the programme.[80]

D. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women[81]

65. The Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery noted that the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act prohibited all forms of violence and criminalized marital rape, female genital mutilation, forceful ejection from home and harmful widowhood practices. The Special Rapporteurs recommended that Nigeria ensure that the Act was adopted in those states that had yet to do so.[82]

66. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women also recommended that Nigeria ensure that the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act was applicable in all federal states and that it expedite the drafting and adoption of its "enforcement procedure" framework, which should be focused on developing a comprehensive prevention strategy for gender-based violence against women.[83]

67. Referring to the relevant recommendations from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act prohibited female genital mutilation, which had been banned in 12 of the 36 states. The country team considered the implementation of those recommendations to be ongoing.[84]

68. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Nigeria raise awareness among religious and traditional leaders and the general public about the criminal nature of female genital mutilation, including so-called female circumcision, and its adverse effect on the human rights of women.[85]

69. UNFPA stated that the humanitarian emergency in insurgency-affected states in north-east Nigeria had significantly impacted on the lives of women and girls with increased displacement, threats of and exposure to gender-based violence, challenges obtaining and utilizing life-saving services and rising incidence of domestic violence. The Government had established a gender-based violence coordination mechanism to address those issues.[86]

70. The Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery stated that, while all women and girls who experienced sexual violence during the insurgency faced stigmatization, the stigma and rejection from families and communities was greater for

those who were perceived to have been associated with Boko Haram as abductees, those living in Boko Haram controlled areas or those who had been compelled and forced to become "wives" of Boko Haram insurgents. Often referred to by communities as "Boko Haram wives" or "Sambisa women", they were shunned and marginalized, even in camps for internally displaced persons.[87]

71. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Nigeria prohibit and eliminate child marriage, wife inheritance and polygamy.[88]

72. The Committee was concerned that section 55 of the Criminal Code permitted wife battery as chastisement as long as no grievous bodily harm was inflicted. It recommended that Nigeria expedite the repeal or amendment of all discriminatory laws.[89]

73. It was concerned that women owned less than 7.2 per cent of the total land mass in Nigeria and that their land rights in rural areas were not guaranteed. It recommended reviewing the Land Use Act (1990), the Land Administration Act (1978) and related land laws and repealing any provisions that prevented women's access to land.[90]

2. Children[91]

74. In 2017, the Secretary-General stated that Boko Haram had used children in direct hostilities and as human shields to protect its elements during military operations. Many children had also been subjected to forceful religious conversion and forced marriage and used for sexual purposes.[92] The Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery stated that girls had been subjected to sexual violence and used as sexual slaves by insurgents, which had resulted in many becoming pregnant.[93]

75. In 2017, the Secretary-General called on Nigeria to ensure that all children allegedly associated with armed groups were primarily treated as victims. He encouraged the Government to put in place a protocol for the handover to civilian authorities of children encountered during the course of military operations.[94]

76. He stated that the Civilian Joint Task Force had recruited children as young as 9 years old.[95] He called on the Government and the Task Force to ensure an end to the recruitment and use of children by the Task Force.[96]

77. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict noted that, on 15 September 2017, the Civilian Joint Task Force had signed an action plan to end the recruitment and use of children, to be facilitated by the Ministry of Justice. The Office encouraged the Task Force to continue making progress on the plan.[97]

78. The Office also encouraged Nigeria to release all detained children to civilian actors and to adopt a handover protocol for children who had previously been associated with armed groups.[98]

79. While noting that the lack of harmonization between sharia law and civil law was allegedly one of the challenges that had prevented states from adopting the Child Rights Act, the Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery recommended that Nigeria ensure that the Act was adopted in those states that had yet to do so, and enforced.[99]

3. Persons with disabilities[100]

80. Referring to the relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, the United Nations country team stated that the seventh National Assembly had passed legislation to domesticate the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, but that it had not been signed into law before the dissolution of the parliament, and had therefore lapsed. Similar legislation was currently under consideration by the eighth parliament. The country team considered the implementation of that recommendation to be ongoing.[101]

81. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned that women and girls with disabilities faced physical and economic barriers in various fields, especially in gaining access to health care, education and employment.[102]

4. Minorities and indigenous peoples[103]

82. The Special Rapporteur on minority issues stated that minorities were often among the most disadvantaged populations and experienced the worst socioeconomic conditions. She recommended that Nigeria urgently adopt a comprehensive national plan against poverty and social exclusion that contained measures focusing on the most vulnerable groups and paid specific attention to the issues of minority women.[104]

83. In 2014, she considered the distinction between indigenes and settlers to be potentially damaging to intergroup relations and coexistence. It had opened and reinforced ethnic and religious cleavages and contributed to tensions and conflict. Some groups regarded indigene status as a safeguard of their rights in the light of the growing numbers, influence and economic dominance of other groups, while others considered it a breach of the right to equality and non-discrimination. If the distinction was to be maintained, further legal clarity would be required to regulate the indigeneship status and guarantee that no person was unfairly discriminated against or excluded from access to services and resources, land or the right to participate fully in economic, social, cultural and political life.[105] The United Nations country team stated that Nigeria had not implemented the relevant recommendation from the previous review.[106]

5. Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons[107]

84. The Committee on Migrant Workers recommended that Nigeria ensure that migration management measures respected the rights of migrants, including children, guaranteed by international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, including the principle of non-refoulement.[108]

85. The Committee also recommended that Nigeria adopt concrete and effective measures to ensure access to medical care, especially for the children of migrant workers in an irregular situation, and to make it possible for such children to enter and remain in the education system.[109]

86. Referring to the relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, the United Nations country team noted that Nigeria had yet to incorporate into its domestic legal framework the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention). There were currently two parallel processes under way, one through the executive and the other through the parliament. The country team considered the implementation of that recommendation to be ongoing.[110]

87. The Special Rapporteurs on health, on sale of children and on slavery stated that the insurgency and security responses to counter it had caused massive displacement of people in north-east Nigeria. That had had grave consequences on the human rights of those affected, including access to food, water and sanitation facilities and livelihood opportunities inside and out of camps. The Special Rapporteurs recommended that Nigeria fund income-generation skills training, skills development and livelihood opportunities to help ensure that displaced persons had the necessary skills and opportunities to build normal lives.[111]

88. In 2017, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons stated that the situation of internally displaced persons remained grave and responses must be stepped up and better coordinated. Credible evidence of widespread human rights violations against internally displaced persons and other members of the civilian population by non-State armed groups and State actors alike required recognition of the situation as a human rights crisis requiring urgent and ongoing measures to protect all civilians from violence and abuse. The Special Rapporteur recommended that the Government adopt a legal and policy framework for the protection of the human rights of internally displaced persons, in conformity with international and regional standards, and strengthen the institutional framework for responses.[112]

89. The Committee on Migrant Workers recommended that Nigeria cease the detention of children on the basis of their or their parents' immigration status and adopt alternatives to detention that allowed children to remain with family members and/or guardians in non-

custodial, community-based contexts while their immigration status was being reviewed, in line with the principles of the best interests of the child and the child's right to family life.[113]

90. The Committee also recommended that Nigeria ensure that abused migrant domestic workers seeking help from Nigerian diplomatic missions abroad were provided with shelter, legal assistance, medical and psychosocial care and interpreters.[114]

91. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Nigeria expedite the adoption of the draft national policy on internally displaced persons and ensure that it integrated a gender perspective in addressing internal displacement.[115]

Notes

[1] Tables containing information on the scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies for Nigeria will be available at www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/AfricaRegion/Pages/NGIndex.aspx.

[2] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.1–135.7, 135.10, 135.35, 135.44, 137.1–137.5, 137.23 and 137.25.

[3] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 14, and CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 52.

[4] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, paras. 14 and 52 (f).

[5] Ibid., para. 13.

[6] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Nigeria, p. 1, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.35 (Azerbaijan), para. 135.36 (Niger), para. 125.37 (Chad) and para. 135.38 (Ghana).

[7] United Nations country team submission, p. 1, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135. 39 (Costa Rica), para. 135.40 (Bulgaria) and para. 135.41 (Hungary).

[8] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.8–135.9, 135.11–135.12, 135.14–135.20, 135.22–135.25, 135.27–135.33, 134.42–135.43, 135.48, 135.50, 135.53–135.54, 137.6–137.7 and 137.74.

[9] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 9.

[10] United Nations country team submission, p. 2, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.8 (Burkina Faso), para. 135.14 (France), para. 135.15 (Ghana), para. 135.16 (Iraq), para. 135.17 (Hungary), para. 135.19 (Kenya), para. 135.20 (Sierra Leone), para. 132.22 (Nicaragua), para. 135.23 (Niger), para. 135.28 (Thailand) and para. 135.29 (Togo).

[11] United Nations country team submission, p. 2, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.10 (Estonia) and para. 135.30 (Tunisia).

[12] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, para. 90 (a).

[13] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 11.

[14] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.5, 135.66–135.67, 135.165, 138.1–138.4, 138.7 and 138.9–138.10.

[15] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 9–10.

[16] Ibid., para. 12 (b) and (c).

[17] United Nations country team submission, p. 2, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.7 (Brazil), para. 135.18 (Indonesia), para. 135.21 (Ireland) and para. 135.25 (Russian Federation).

[18] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, paras. 24 and 90 (d). See also UNFPA submission for the universal periodic review of Nigeria, p. 3.

[19] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, paras. 27–28.

[20] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.167–135.169 and 137.34.

[21] See A/HRC/28/64/Add.2, para. 79.

[22] Ibid., paras. 85–86.

[23] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 39–40.

[24] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.73, 135.75–135.78, 135.81 and 135.170–135.172.

[25] See A/HRC/30/67, para. 81 (c).

[26] Ibid., paras. 79 and 81 (b).

[27] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.68–135.70, 135.72–135.73, 135.75, 135.80, 135.82, 135.106–135.112, 137.10–137.13, 137.22, 137.24 and 137.28–137.30.

[28] United Nations country team submission, p. 4, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.70 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), para. 135.71 (United States of America) and para. 135.72 (Canada).

[29] United Nations country team submission, p. 4, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.73 (Hungary) and para. 135.74 (Sweden).
[30] See A/HRC/30/67, paras. 22, 55, 64 and 81 (a) and (d).
[31] Ibid., para. 60.
[32] See S/2017/304, para. 89.
[33] Ibid., para. 91.
[34] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, para. 36.
[35] See S/2017/304, paras. 69–74. See also A/HRC/30/67, paras. 29–31.
[36] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 15–16.
[37] United Nations country team submission, p. 6, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.107 (Austria).
[38] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.71, 135.79, 135.113–135.114 and 135.116–135.121.
[39] United Nations country team submission, pp. 7–8, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.116 (Turkey), para. 135.117 (Austria), para. 135.118 (Belgium) and para. 135.119 (Switzerland).
[40] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, paras. 80–81 and 98.
[41] See A/HRC/28/64/Add.2, para. 82.
[42] United Nations country team submission, p. 6, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.113 (France).
[43] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 13.
[44] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.122–135.128, 135.160 and 137.31.
[45] United Nations country team submission, p. 3, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.66 (Argentina) and para. 135.67 (Botswana).
[46] See UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Nigeria, paras. 6 and 17.
[47] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 40.
[48] See A/HRC/28/64/Add.2, para. 64.
[49] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 29–30.
[50] See A/HRC/28/64/Add.2, para. 91.
[51] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.90–135.91.
[52] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 27.
[53] UNFPA submission, p. 3.
[54] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 56.
[55] Ibid., para. 55.
[56] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/25/6, para. 138.6.
[57] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 31–32.
[58] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 27.
[59] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 45–46.
[60] Ibid., paras. 45–46.
[61] Ibid., paras. 35–36.
[62] Ibid., para. 28.
[63] Ibid., paras. 39–40.
[64] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 37.
[65] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.129–135.130 and 135.132–135.134.
[66] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 48.
[67] See A/HRC/28/64/Add.2, paras. 76 and 80.
[68] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.135–135.140 and 135.143.
[69] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 37.
[70] UNFPA submission, p. 6.
[71] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 38.
[72] Ibid., paras. 37–38.
[73] Ibid., para. 37.
[74] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.144–135.55 and 136.1–136.3.
[75] Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict submission for the universal periodic review of Nigeria, pp. 2–3.
[76] See A/HRC/28/64/Add.2, para. 101.
[77] See UNESCO submission, para. 14.
[78] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 33.
[79] See UNESCO submission, para. 16.
[80] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 34.
[81] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.21, 135.45–135.46, 135.55–135.65, 135.97, 135.100–135.102, 135.104–135.105, 137.8, 137.16 and 137.27.
[82] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, paras. 21 and 90 (a).
[83] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 25–26.

[84] United Nations country team submission, p. 2, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.21 (Ireland), para. 135.101 (Austria), para. 135.102 (Japan), para. 135.103 (Netherlands), para. 135.104 (Italy) and para. 135.105 (Holy See).
[85] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, paras. 23–24. See also UNFPA submission, p. 4.
[86] UNFPA submission, p. 3.
[87] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, paras. 40, 96 (b) and 97 (a).
[88] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 22.
[89] Ibid., paras. 11–12.
[90] Ibid., paras. 41–42.
[91] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.13, 135.26, 135.49, 135.52, 135.83–138.89, 135.92–135.95, 135.161 and 135.163.
[92] See S/2017/304, para. 32.
[93] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, para. 37.
[94] See S/2017/304, para. 92.
[95] Ibid., para. 34.
[96] Ibid., para. 90.
[97] Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict submission, p. 2.
[98] Ibid.
[99] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, paras. 20 and 90 (a).
[100] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.156–135.159 and 135.162.
[101] United Nations country team submission, p. 2, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.15 (Ghana).
[102] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 43.
[103] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.164 and 137.33.
[104] See A/HRC/28/64/Add.2, para. 80.
[105] Ibid., para. 75. See also paras. 20–28.
[106] United Nations country team submission, p. 3, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.164 (Germany).
[107] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.166 and 137.32.
[108] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 12.
[109] Ibid., para. 42.
[110] United Nations country team submission, p. 2, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.27 (Switzerland).
[111] See A/HRC/32/32/Add.2, paras 42 and 97 (d).
[112] See A/HRC/35/27/Add.1, paras. 70 and 74.
[113] See CMW/C/NGA/CO/1, para. 34.
[114] Ibid., para. 50.
[115] See CEDAW/C/NGA/CO/7-8, para. 44.

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Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on Nigeria*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 36 stakeholders' submissions[1] to the universal periodic review. A separate section is provided for a contribution by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles

2. The National Human Rights Commission did not make a submission.

III. Information provided by other stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies[2]

3. JS9 stated that the Federal Republic of Nigeria ("Nigeria") had not acceded to the Second Optional Protocol to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;3 and ERI stated that Nigeria had not ratified Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol.[4]

4. ICAN stated that Nigeria had signed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 20 September 2017, but had not ratified the Treaty.[5]

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

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B. National human rights framework[6]

5. JS12 stated that while Chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria detailed economic and social rights as Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy, those rights were not justiciable.[7]

6. JS9 stated that the legislative framework had not incorporated all of the provisions from the international and regional human rights treaties that had been ratified by Nigeria.[8]

7. WRAHP stated that Nigeria had ratified Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1985 but was yet to fulfil its obligations arising from the Convention.[9] JS10 stated that the incorporation of the provisions of the Convention into the national legislative framework through the enactment of the Gender and Equal Opportunities Bill had made little progress.[10]

8. JS3 stated that the Hate Speech bill that had been introduced before the Senate was vaguely-worded, provided no clear definition of hate speech and was open to abuse. Furthermore, the Bill had infringed the relevant rights provided for in the Constitution.[11]

9. JS9 stated that the Human Rights Commission had remained toothless and had lacked the power to render binding decisions or to compel legal action or cooperation. It had little financial support and autonomy. The Commission's members included government representatives, compromising its independence.[12]

C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Cross-cutting issues

Equality and non-discrimination[13]

10. JS8 stated that discrimination had remained institutionalised in families and communities, and was evident in the behaviours of government officials, such as the police, health workers and educators.[14] Nigeria had continued to allow the violation of the rights of the LGBT population, despite its obligations to protect those rights arising from several international human rights conventions to which it was a party.[15]

11. JS5 recalled that Nigeria had not supported any of the recommendations from the previous review that inter alia related to the repealing of those laws that discriminated based on sexual orientation and gender identity.[16] Certain provisions in the Criminal Code, Penal Code and the National Law and Drug Enforcement Act had disproportionately affected gay men, female sex workers, and intravenous drug users. The Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act had negative consequences beyond the deprivation of marriage rights for gay men and women.[17] JS5 stated that, under Sharia law the penalty for homosexuality was death.[18] The Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act of 2015, had done little to protect gay men, female sex workers and intravenous drug users as vulnerable populations.[19] AFA stated that the Act was yet to be incorporated into domestic legislation in all states. [20]

12. JS8 stated that expansive provisions of the Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act had served to codify homophobia and transphobia.[21] JS12 stated that the Act, which generally criminalized same sex relationships, had created additional criminal offences that targeted persons based on their sexual orientation.[22] JS8 stated that the Act had effectively legalized discrimination and had allowed people to act with impunity. Since its enactment there had been an increase in crimes and human rights violations against LGBT persons and their defenders.[23] JS13 stated that the Act and other discriminatory laws had been used to subject the LGBT community to violations including invasion of privacy, assault and battery, black mail and extortion, denial of access to amenities and education.[24]

13. Referring to a relevant study, JS12 noted a significant increase in fear in seeking healthcare services by men who had sex with men after the enactment of the Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act (2014).[25] JS13 stated that sections 5(2) and (3) of the Act had hindered access to Anti-Retroviral Vaccines, HIV testing and counselling services.[26] JS8

stated that LGBT persons had experienced difficulties in accessing health care services. The denial of such services would have a negative impact on Nigeria's progress towards HIV eradication.[27]

14. While noting the enactment of HIV/AIDS (Anti-discrimination) Act, 2014, which aimed to protect the rights and dignity of all persons living with and affected by HIV, JS12 stated that discrimination against and violation of the rights of people living with HIV had persisted.[28]

15. JS5 stated that gay men, female sex workers and intravenous drug users had experienced significant discrimination, influenced by traditional culture as well as religious moral values.[29]

16. TLM stated that persons affected by leprosy and their families had continued to face discrimination on the account of the stigma because of the deformities arising from late detection. Prevailing myths and superstition had led to the erroneous perception that the disease was highly infectious leading to exclusion and discriminatory practices against persons affected by leprosy and their families.[30]

Development, the environment, and business and human rights[31]

17. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, AI stated that the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency Act (Amendment) Bill, 2017, if enacted into law, would empower the Agency to efficiently record and report oil spills independently of the oil companies and to sanction oil companies.[32]

18. JS14 stated that decades of oil exploitation in the Niger Delta have resulted in severe environmental degradation in Ogoniland.[33] The clean-up project launched in June 2017 was yet to commence, as the funds had not been provided.[34] As a result of the pollution, various health conditions had been detected among members of the Ogoni community, but no information was provided to the community on the impact of the pollution on their health.[35]

Human rights and counter-terrorism[36]

19. AI stated that The Terrorism (Prevention) Act (as amended) was overly broad and violated Nigeria's Constitution and its international human rights obligations. The Constitution requires suspects to be brought before a court within 48 hours of them being detained, whereas the Act provides for extended periods of detention of individuals suspected of involvement in terrorism.[37]

20. LEPAD stated that security operatives had committed grave human rights violations in their response to the Boko Haram insurgency. Innocent citizens had been arrested, tortured and unlawfully detained.[38]

2. Civil and political rights

Right to life, liberty and security of person[39]

21. AI stated that since 2014, Boko Haram had committed war crimes and crimes against humanity, killing at least 9000 civilians, abducting thousands of women and girls and destroying villages and towns.[40]

22. JS10 stated that security agencies, particularly the police and the military, had been implicated in widespread human rights violations including excessive use of force, extrajudicial killings, torture, arbitrary arrests and detention, enforced disappearances and extortion.[41]

23. IHRC stated that during the period of 12 to 14 December 2015, the armed forces attached unarmed civilians resulting in the death of at least 1000 people. The Judicial Commission of Inquiry set up by the state government in Kaduana to look into those killings lacked independence and impartiality.[42]

24. SRW stated that in November 2015, the army had attached Shia processions in Kaduna state killing over 400 men, women and children.[43]

25. While noting that Nigeria was the first African country to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty, JS16 stated that the proliferation of small arms and light weapons had been very high.[44]

26. AI stated that the death penalty remained mandatory in criminal law for a wide range of crimes with some states expanding the range of crimes to include kidnappings.[45] JS18 stated that as soon as a crimes assumes notoriety or begins to overwhelm law enforcement agencies, the response has been to impose the death penalty for such crimes.[46]

27. Referring to a relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, AI stated that the authorities were yet to amend Force Order 237 which provided for a much wider scope for the use of lethal force than is permissible under international law and standards and was often used to justify shooting by police officers.[47]

28. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, AI stated that in December 2017, the President of Nigeria signed the Anti-Torture Act, which penalized acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.[48] PRAWA stated that this law had significant gaps for example, in relation to investigations and victims right to reparation and rehabilitation.[49]

29. PRAWA stated that there had been consistent allegations of torture by members of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad to extort confessions from detainees and arrested persons and conditions in most places of detention constitute at the very least cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Unfortunately, those allegations had not been effectively investigated, alleged perpetrators had not been prosecuted, and victims had no access to reparation and rehabilitation.[50]

30. PRAWA stated that the National Committee on Prevention of Torture had been established to monitor the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty. However, this Committee had been unable to fully execute its mandate pursuant to OP-CAT due to a wide variety of problems, including inadequate resources; the lack of a central database or register of all places of detention, their location, and number of detainees; and the lack of effective access to all places of detention.[51]

31. Referring to supported recommendations from the previous review relating to extremism and violence by extremist groups, JS3 stated that attacks on non-Muslim communities in central Nigeria by the Fulani militia had spiralled following the inauguration of President Buhari in May 2015.[52] Although Nigeria had supported a recommendation to prevent acts of violence against religious minorities, sectarian intolerance and violence against religious minorities had increased and perpetrators had rarely been apprehended or punished.[53]

32. HRF stated that in 2016, the military arrested thousands of men, women, and children, including those who were fleeing from Boko Haram in Borno state, based on random profiling rather than on reasonable suspicion of having committed a recognizable crime.[54]

33. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, AI stated that despite efforts by the government, through the army-led Special Board of Inquiry and the Presidential Investigative Panel, to review compliance by the armed forces with human rights, the authorities were yet to hold any member of the armed forces accountable for gross human rights violations.[55]

34. JS3 stated that kidnapping for ransom had risen. There had been a spike in kidnappings on the Kaduna-Abuja road, despite a large security deployment.[56] Furthermore, of the 276 female students who had been abducted from the Government Secondary school in Chibok in 2014, 113 girls had been unaccounted for.[57] In February 2018, 110 girls had been abducted from the Government Girls Science and Technical College in Dapchi, Yobe State, 105 of who had since been returned. Five girls had reportedly died.[58]

35. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, AI stated that although conditions in detention have improved, inmates had continued to die.[59] JS10 stated that there had been overcrowding and understaffing in prisons, as well as a lack of medical care, and inadequate conditions for female and juvenile prisoners. [60] AI stated

that in the north east of Nigeria, the military had detained thousands of people between 2014 and 2017, without access to courts and with some people detained for up to two years.[61]

36. JS12 expressed concern about the practice of incarcerating caregivers with infants.[62]

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law[63]

37. FLD expressed serious concerns about the impartiality and independence of the criminal justice system. It stated that wealthy individuals, the police, the security forces and government agencies had repeatedly used the criminal justice system to target those who exposed corruption.[64] HRF stated that corruption had contributed to the miscarriage of justice as judicial personnel had been known to solicit bribes in order to deliver favourable rulings.[65]

38. LEPAD stated that human rights cases had been subjected to unnecessarily long adjournments for reasons, which included the limited number of judges in some of the courts.[66]

39. JS4 stated that legal system had comprised of Islamic Law, English Common Law and Customary Law. With each body of law prescribing its own definitions of relevant offences and penalties, this had made the protection of children challenging.[67] Furthermore, the lack of a uniform definition of a child had adversely affected the protection of victims and the prosecution of alleged offenders.[68]

40. Referring to relevant supported recommendations, LEPAD stated that the practice of not ensuring the appearances of arrested and detained suspects before a competent court within the prescribed time, had persisted, despite the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015.[69]

41. PRAWA stated that arrest and detention had appeared to be the standard response to any crime regardless of its severity, and had often happened before any meaningful investigation had been undertaken. Detained suspects had faced significant challenges which hindered them being brought before a judge within a reasonable time. Furthermore, the frequent use of the sentence of imprisonment for petty crimes, such as street hawking, following summary trials by mobile courts had resulted in a high number of persons, including minors, serving terms of imprisonment.[70]

42. JS18 stated that the police had lacked the capacity to undertake effective criminal investigations. There were no forensic laboratories, equipment or facilities to link crimes to suspects. Most charges for crimes attracting the death penalty had been based on confessional statements and the Judiciary had been complicit when it convicted persons on the evidence of those statements and sentenced them to death, knowing the limitations of the criminal justice system.[71]

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life[72]

43. JS4 stated that about 50 percent of the population were Muslim, 40 were Christian and the remaining 10 percent held indigenous beliefs.[73] JS15 stated that conversion from one religion to another was not always possible and that there was no freedom to choose one's religion.[74]

44. JS3 stated that religious minorities in the northern and central states had not enjoyed the freedoms of thought, conscience and religion particularly since the adoption of the Shari'a penal code by twelve states.[75] In those states, non-Muslims had been denied the rights, opportunities and protections that had been enjoyed by Muslims.[76]

45. Referring to a relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, JS3 stated that in most Shari'a states, construction of churches had been restricted.[77]

46. JS15 stated that barriers to the exercise of the freedom of worship had been social and political rather than legal and had been connected to the competition for resources and power.[78]

47. JS3 stated that although Nigeria supported a recommendation from the previous review to protect children from forced conversion, such a practice had continued,

particularly in Shari'a states, where non-Muslim girls had experienced abduction, forced conversion and forced marriage. Local Islamic institutions through the enforcement of traditional rules had often been complicit in those violations.[79]

48. JS11 stated that on 23 August 2017, the Director of Defence Information had announced the military's plan to monitor social media activities from strategic media centres to sieve out and react to speeches that conveyed "anti-government", "anti-military" or "anti-security" sentiments.[80] Those developments had contributed to an atmosphere of fear of surveillance.[81]

49. JS2 stated that Nigeria had not effectively implement eight supported recommendations from the previous review relating inter alia to the protection of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society representatives.[82]

50. Referring to two supported recommendations from the previous review, which inter alia related to human rights defenders, FLD stated that over the past five years the working environment for human rights defenders had deteriorated.[83] They had been targeted by the authorities, as well as armed groups.[84]

51. Referring to a relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, JS16 stated that, despite several efforts, the legislation for gender equality in political participation had not been followed-up by any effort for implementation.[85]

Prohibition of all forms of slavery[86]

52. JS4 stated that Nigeria had been a source, transit and destination country for trafficking of children for sexual exploitation.[87] Discussions had been ongoing among government ministries on the formulation of a new national action plan.[88] Furthermore, the respective police task forces that had been established at federal and state levels to tackle human trafficking was not been working efficiently. In some states, the police task force had not been established.[89]

53. JS15 stated that children who were no longer with their parents were particularly at risk of being forced into slavery and hard labour in home and on farms, and into prostitution. Also, girls were at risk of being trafficked to other parts of the country to work as "house-helps".[90]

Right to privacy and family life[91]

54. JS11 stated that the Terrorism (Prevention) Act, 2011, and the Cybercrimes (Prohibition, Prevention, Etc) Act 2015 contained insufficient protections to ensure the right to privacy, as they did not comply with the internationally recognised principles with which surveillance policies and practices should be compliance, such as legality, necessity, proportionality, judicial authorisation, effective independent oversight, transparency, and user notification.[92] Two privacy-related bills, the Data Protection Bill 2015 and the Digital Rights and Freedom Bill 2016, were expected to become law in 2018. Although the Data Protection Bill set forth relevant safe guards, important aspects remained untouched.[93]

55. JS11 stated the draft Lawful Interception of Communications Regulation had raised concerns. If brought into force, this regulation would enable interception of communications—both with and without a warrant—and require mobile phone companies to retain intercepted voice and data communications for three years. It would also require telecommunications licensees to provide specified security agencies with access to protected communications virtually on demand.[94]

56. While noting that in 2012 the High Court inter alia recognized the unlawfulness of HIV testing without informed consent, JS12 stated that the practice of non-consensual HIV testing had persisted.[95]

3. Economic, social and cultural rights

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

57. JS2 stated that Nigeria had implemented a supported recommendation from the previous review, which called for the amendment of the Trade Union (Amendment) Act (2005) and the recognition of collective bargaining.[96]

58. ICTUR stated that the Trade Unions Act created institutional barriers to the establishment, operation and maintenance of trade unions.[97]

59. ICTUR stated that, pursuant to the Trade Dispute Act, any worker who participates in a strike in connection with a trade dispute where the Minister has ordered conciliation or arbitration is guilty of an offence.[98]

60. ERI stated that it was a common practice to hire employees without advertising positions, requesting written applications or inviting applicants to interviews.[99]

Right to social security

61. JS15 stated that many children lived below the poverty level, with inadequate clothing, food, shelter, education or access to healthcare.[100]

Right to an adequate standard of living[101]

62. Referring to supported recommendations on improving access to adequate and affordable housing from the previous review, JS13 stated that Nigeria had not implemented those recommendations.[102] Although the relevant policies had been introduced, they had not been comprehensively implemented. Furthermore, the funding schemes had been inaccessible to the under-privileged and the poor.[103]

63. AI stated that thousands of people had continued to be at risk of forced evictions across the country with very few laws and safeguards in place to stipulate the process for lawful evictions. Between 2015 and 2017, about 40 000 poor urban dwellers were forcibly evicted in Lagos State. In some instances, the authorities had ignored court orders declaring the evictions unlawful.[104]

64. JS10 stated that there had been an increase in demolitions and forceful evictions of families from their properties without compensation and alternative accommodation.[105] JS13 stated that LGBT persons had been subjected to forced, violent and arbitrary evictions.[106]

65. JS4 stated that Nigeria was a leading economic power in Africa, due, in particular, to high oil revenues. However, due to a poor distribution of wealth, rampant corruption and, an atmosphere of insecurity and violence, 54 percent of the population lived below the international poverty line of US$1.90 per day.[107]

66. JS17 stated that the significant reduction in the federal budget for water and sanitation would have a dramatic effect on the realization of access to water and sanitation.[108]

Right to health[109]

67. JS1 stated that maternal health remained underfunded. Since the Abuja Declaration in 2001, Nigeria had not attained the pledged funding benchmark of 15 percent of the annual budget.[110]

68. JS16 stated that there was a lack of access to adequate healthcare, family planning services, counselling and education for rural women.[111] ADF stated that Nigeria must focus on helping women to get through pregnancy and childbirth safely. Women should be provided with access to knowledge-based education about their bodies, healthy behaviours and responsible decision-making.[112]

69. JS1 stated that the maternal mortality rate had remained high. Accessibility and availability of quality maternal health care had been impeded by the cost of services, the distance to health facilities, and the inadequate and long waiting times at public health

facilities.[113] JS10 stated that maternal health had become a major challenge for "community women" in the Niger Delta, who had depended on traditional birth attendants for maternity services.[114] WRAHP stated that untrained traditional birth attendants were responsible for over 35 percent of the deliveries, which contributed to the high rates of maternal mortality.[115]

70. JS1 stated that women and girls in conflict zones had continued to face numerous reproductive rights violations, including child and forced marriage, sexual and gender based violence, unsafe abortions and lack of access to family planning information and services.[116]

71. JS1 stated that access to safe legal abortion and post-abortion care had remained lacking. Abortion laws had remained restrictive and had resulted in clandestine and unsafe abortions.[117] Low contraceptive usage had been a leading and contributing factor to the high rates of unwanted and unplanned pregnancies.[118]

Right to education[119]

72. WRAHP stated that there had been a decline in the standard of education.[120] JS3 stated that at the previous review, Nigeria had supported a number of recommendations in relation to the right to education.[121] However, Nigeria would struggle to implement those recommendations, particularly those relating to the provision of free access to primary education.[122]

73. JS16 stated that the education system was severely underfunded resulting in a lack of proper infrastructure, inadequate classrooms and teaching aids. There were examination malpractices, cultism, sexual abuse, bribery, corruption and hooliganism.[123]

74. S3 stated that there had been a lack of government funding for schools in predominantly non-Muslim areas, and informal schools created with the help of non-governmental organisations had experienced difficulties with their registration.[124] JS16 stated that Nigeria had not given any attention to the education of girls in remote parts of the country.[125]

75. JS8 stated that homophobic bullying in schools had proven to be a serious impairment to adequate access to education. There had also been a failure to provide comprehensive and inclusive education on sexual orientation and gender identity in schools.[126]

4. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women[127]

76. JS15 stated that Nigeria had failed to address traditional practices that had hampered gender equality. Discrimination started even before the birth of a girl. Education of boys had been prioritised over that of girls and girls were denied the right to inherit property.[128]

77. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, JS1 stated that in 2015, the laws on gender-based violence had been consolidated into the Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act, 2015, which broadly covers physical, psychological, economic, and sexual violence, including rape, as well as harmful traditional practices.[129] However, the Act was only in force in the federal capital and that several states did not have specific laws prohibiting sexual and gender based violence. Moreover, Section 55 of the Penal Code, which was in force in the North, specifically allowed husbands to discipline their wives.[130]

78. WRAHP stated that domestic violence and gender-based violence had been on an increase and that the relevant authorities had not given adequate attention to the issue.[131] JS16 stated that domestic violence remained underreported for reasons that included the existence of a culture of silence and the turning away of victims at police stations on the grounds that such a matter was a family affair.[132]

79. JS13 referred to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review and stated that although there had been enactment of progressive laws, harmful gender norms,

cultural practices and discriminatory laws had persisted.[133] In several communities, women had been barred from owning immovable property or from renting a house.[134]

80. PRAWA stated that female genital mutilation was a common practice in many states in Nigeria. Such a practice was an abuse of the rights of victims to reproductive health and in severe cases could lead to their death. The Violence against Persons (Prohibition) Act (2015) recognizes female genital mutilation as an offence.[135] However, according to PJ, the legislation had not been effectively implemented.[136] JS10 stated that there had been a low rate of prosecution for alleged acts of female genital mutilation.[137]

81. JS10 stated that women, girls and children had been most affected by the insurgency in the northeast part of Nigeria. Women and girls had been used as suicide bombers, and had been exposed to sexual abuse, drug trafficking and prostitution within the camps for internally displaced people.[138]

82. JS16 stated that a precondition for achieving lasting peace and security was to build the potential of rural women and girls, who constituted 81 percent of the farmers.[139] It further stated that the lack of consistent funding and the sustainability of programmes has continued to prevent any significant improvement for rural women.[140]

83. CITAD expressed concern by the persistent threats, harassments, intimidations and attacks on women internet users. It expressed alarm by the failure of the government to protect women from gender-based violence on line.[141]

Children[142]

84. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, JS4 stated of the 36 states, only 25 had enacted the Child Rights Act, 2003, which had been enacted at the federal level to integrate the provisions of Convention on the Rights of the Child into the national legislative framework.[143]

85. Referring to a relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, JS4 stated that the Department of Child Development, which was the main body for protecting children rights, and the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons had lacked human and financial resources.[144]

86. JS4 stated that in 2016, a national campaign to end all forms of violence against children by 2030 had been launched, in line with Target 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.[145]

87. GIEACPC called for the enactment of laws explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings, including in the home, as a sentence for a crime and in traditional and religious law. It also called for the repeal all defences and authorizations for the use of corporal punishment.[146]

88. JS12 expressed concern about the high rates of child marriage and the need to address the underlying factors that contributed to early marriage.[147] JS16 stated that state legislation on the minimum age of marriage varied from state to state.[148]

89. PJ stated that in the Niger Delta there had been a huge challenge to implement legislation prohibiting child labour.[149]

Persons with disabilities[150]

90. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, JS16 stated that the Disability Rights Bill, which was passed by 6th and 7th National Assemblies, was yet to be signed into law by the President.[151]

91. JS15 stated that people with disabilities had experienced discrimination and had no access to any special education or social welfare. Institutions such as schools, hospitals, churches, airports and government offices were not disability-friendly. Millions of people with disabilities lived below the poverty level and were deprived of basic needs such as adequate clothing, food and shelter, education and access to health care.[152]

Minorities and indigenous peoples[153]

92. JS3 stated that members of the Igbo ethnic group were vulnerable. On 6 June 2017, men who had purported to represent 19 northern Muslim youth groups had held a press conference to release a document entitled the 'Kaduna Declaration' that denigrated Igbos, and had given them a deadline to leave the 19 northern states or face 'visible actions'. The Kaduna State Governor el Rufai had issued an order for the immediate arrest of those men. However, they remain at large.[154] Furthermore, in August 2017, a song that had referred to Igbos as a curse to Nigeria and had advocated violence against them had been widely circulated.[155]

93. JS9 stated that the Nigeria's response to the protracted violent conflict between the Nomadic Fulani Herders and the Indigenous Peoples of Numan Federation had shown a lack of political will and capacity to end the conflict, address the root causes and to restore mutual peace and coexistence between the different ethnic groups and communities in the region.[156]

94. MUTUK stated since the previous review, there had been recurrent and unprovoked attacks on the Tiv communities in Benue state by Fulani nomadic herdsman. The Federal Government had failed to take reasonable and appropriate measures to protect those communities.[157]

95. JS14 stated that the Ogoni language was no longer included in the school curriculum. Representatives of the Ogani community had advocated for a multilingual education programme in schools that included teaching children in their mother tongue.[158]

Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons[159]

96. JS15 stated that 1.9 million people had been displaced due to years of insurgency and counterinsurgency operations. Those people have had inadequate accommodation, no farmland or access to food or means of earning a living. They have relied solely on food deliveries from local churches and sometimes from the International Community of the Red Cross.[160]

97. PJ stated that in the camp for internally displaced persons, women and girls had been exposed to sexual abuse, drug trafficking, and prostitution, coupled with challenges arising from inadequate health and sanitary facilities, food and adequate security.[161]

Notes

[1] *Civil society*
Individual submissions:

ADF	ADF International, Geneva, Switzerland;
AFA	Alliance for Africa, Nigeria;
AI	Amnesty International, London, United Kingdom;
CITAD	Center for Information Technology and Development, Melville, South Africa;
ERI	Edmund Rice International, Geneva, Switzerland;
FLD	Front Line Defenders, Dublin, Ireland;
GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, London, UK;
HRF	Human Rights Foundation, New York, USA;
ICAN	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Geneva, Switzerland;
ICTUR	The International Centre for Trade Union Rights, London, UK;
IHRC	Islamic Human Rights Commission, Wembley, UK;
LEPAD	Legal Defence and Assistance Project, Lagos, Nigeria;
MUTUK	The Mutual Union of the Tiv in United Kingdom, London, UK;
PRAWA	Prisoners' Rehabilitation and Welfare Action, Copenhagen, Denmark;
PJ	Partnership for Justice, Lagos, Nigeria;
SRW	Shia Rights Watch, Washington D.C., USA;

TLM	The Leprosy Mission International, London, UK;
WRAPH	Women's Rights and Health Project, Lagos, Nigeria.
Joint submissions:	
JS1	Centre for Reproductive Rights, Legal Defence and Assistance Project, and Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre, New York, United States of America (Joint Submission 1);
JS2	CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Johannesburg, South Africa, and Nigeria Network of NGOs, Nigeria (Joint Submission 2);
JS3	Christian Solidarity Worldwide, New Malden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and CSW-Nigeria (Joint Submission 3);
JS4	Women Consortium of Nigeria, Lagos, Nigeria, and ECPAT International, Bangkok, Thailand (Joint Submission 4);
JS5	Heartland Alliance International, Chicago, United States of America, American University, Washington College of Law, International Human Rights Law Clinic, United States of America (Joint Submission 5);
JS6	International Service for Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland, Partnership for Justice, Legal Defence and Assistance Project and Women's Rights and Health Project (Joint Submission 6);
JS7	Jubilee Campaign, Fairfax, United States of America, Advocates International, and the Institute on Religion and Democracy (Joint Submission 7);
JS8	The Equality Hub, Leitner Center for International Law and Justice, New York, United States of America, One Action Foundation, OutRight Action International, and ReSista Camp (Joint Submission 8);
JS9	The Lutheran World Federation, Geneva, Switzerland; The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria, Adamawa State, Nigeria; and the United Adamawa Forum /Global Peace and Reconciliation Initiative (Joint Submission 9);
JS10	The Coalition of Nigerian Human Rights CSOs on UPR comprising of: Partnership for Justice, Lagos, Nigeria; Sterling law Centre, Abuja, Nigeria; Centre for Citizens Rights, Abuja, Nigeria; CLEEN Foundation Lagos, Nigeria; Women Africa, Abuja, Nigeria; Lux Terra Leadership Foundation, Abuja, Nigeria; West African Human Rights Defenders' Network, Lome, Nigeria; Rural Integrated Dev. Initiative, Bauchi, Jalnyo, Taraba State, Nigeria; Women's Rights and Health Project, Lagos, Nigeria; Kebetkache Women Dev. & Resource Centre, Portharcourt, Nigeria; African Centre for Leadership, Strategy & Development, Abuja; Centre LSD, South South, Nigeria; Centre for Sustainable Development, Yobe State, Nigeria; Youths for Peace and Development, Bauchi, Nigeria; Beautiful Eves of Africa Organisation, Eungu, Nigeria; Partners West Africa-Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria; Nigerian Women Trust Fund, Abuja, Nigeria; FIDA, Abuja, Nigeria; PEDANET, Edo State, Nigeria; AFRICMIL, Abuja; NCICC, Abuja, Nigeria; Education as a Vaccine, Abuja, Nigeria; Community Centre for Development, Sokoto, Nigeria; Conference of Rights Nigeria, PLAC, Abuja, Nigeria; CASER, Abuja, Nigeria; EVA, Abuja; Alliances for Africa, Owerri, Nigeria; Development Dynamics, Owerri, Nigeria; Michael Adedotun Oke Foundation, Abuja, Nigeria; Network on Police Reform in Nigeria, Lagos, Nigeria; Foundation For Environmental Rights Advocacy & Development, Eungu, Nigeria; Partnership to Inspire, Transform and Connect the HIV Response Abuja, Nigeria; Parent Child Intervention Centre, Eungu, Nigeria; JCI Hope Project, Eungu, Nigeria; Agents of Communication and Development, Eungu, Nigeria;

	African Women and Children Care Support Initiative, Eungu; International Centre for Development and Budget Advocacy, Eungu; Universal Career Discovery and Development Initiative, Eungu; Bold And Beautiful Girls Initiative, Womenaid Collective, Eungu; Prisoners Rehabilitation and Welfare Action, Eungu, Nigeria; FIDA, Eungu, Nigeria; AFRILAW, Abuja, Nigeria; Centre for Citizens with Disabilities, Lagos, Nigeria; WARDC, Lagos, Nigeria; REPLACE, Abuja, Nigeria; and LEDAP, Lagos, Nigeria (Joint Submission 10);
JS11	Paradigm Initiative; and Privacy International, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Joint Submission 11);
JS12	Lawyers Alert, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria; and Southern Africa Litigation Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa (Joint Submission 12);
JS13	Women Action for Gender Equality, Kano, Nigeria; Coalition of African Lesbians, Braamfontein, Johannesburg; and Sexual Rights Initiative, Ottawa, Canada (Joint Submission 13);
JS14	Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, Bruxelles, Belgium; and Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, Port Harcourt, Nigeria (Joint Submission 14);
JS15	The World Council of Churches, the Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN), the CCN Institute of Church and Society Ibadan, the CCN Institute of Church and Society Jos, Methodist Church Nigeria, Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network, Divine Foundation for Disabled Persons, and the Finnish Ecumenical Council (Joint Submission 15);
JS16	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Geneva, Switzerland, presenting the submission on behalf of Arike Foundation, Dorothy Njemanze Foundation, Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria, Initiative for Sustainable Peace, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom – Nigeria, Women's Right Advancement and Protection Alternative, Women for Skill Acquisition Development and Leadership Organization (Joint Submission 16);
JS17	Friends of the African Union Global Solutions Center, Cincinnati, USA and West Pride of Nigeria, Lagos, Nigeria (Joint Submission 17);
JS18	The Human Rights Law Service, Legal Defence and Assistance Project, and The Coalition against the Death Penalty, Montreuil, France (Joint Submission 18).

[2] For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/26/6, paras. 135.1-135.7, 135.10, 135.35, 135.44, 137.1-137.5, 137.23 and 137.25.

[3] JS9, para. 3. JS9 made a recommendation (p. 2).

[4] ERI, p. 3.

[5] ICAN, p. 1. ICAN made a recommendation (p. 1).

[6] For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.8, 135.9, 135.11, 135.12, 135.14-135.20, 135.22, 135.23-135.25, 135.27, 135.28, 135.29, 135.30-135.33, 134.42, 135.43, 135.48, 135.50, 135.53, 135.54, 137.6, 137.7 and 137.74.

[7] JS12, para. 2.1, JS12 made a recommendation (p. 3).

[8] JS9, para. 4. JS9 made a recommendation (p. 2).

[9] WRAHP, p. 4.

[10] JS10, para. 2.1.1. JS10 made recommendations (para. 2.1.1); See also PJ, p. 3. PJ made recommendations (p. 3); AFA, p. 2. AFA made a recommendation (p. 2).

[11] JS3, paras. 83 and 84. JS3 made a recommendation (para. 86).

[12] JS9, para. 6. JS9 made recommendations (p. 3).

[13] For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.5, 135.66, 135.67, 135.165, 138.1-138.4, 138.7, 138.9 and138.10.

[14] JS8, para. 35.

[15] *Ibid*, para. 4.

[16] JS5, para. 4, referring to referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 138. 1 (Austria), para. 138.2 (Czech Republic), para. 138.3 (United States of America); para. 138.4 (Sweden), para.138.5 (Canada), 138.6 (Australia); para. 138.8 (Austria) para. 138.9 (France) and para. 138.10 (Uruguay).
[17] *Ibid*, para. 15.
[18] *Ibid*, para. 17.
[19] *Ibid*, para. 21. JS5 made recommendations (p. 7).
[20] AFA, p. 2.
[21] JS8, para. 5.
[22] JS12, para. 3.19. JS12 made recommendations (p. 9).
[23] JS8, para. 6. See also JS6, p. 2. JS6 made recommendations (p.4).
[24] JS13, para. 34. See also JS6, p. 2. JS6 made recommendations (p.4).
[25] JS12, para. 3.21 and fn. 40.
[26] JS13, paras. 16 and 17. JS13 made recommendations (paras. 48 – 50).
[27] JS8, para. 24.
[28] JS12, paras. 3.5 and 3.6. JS12 made a recommendation (p. 7).
[29] JS5, para. 8.
[30] TLM, p. 1. TLM made recommendations (pp. 2-3).
[31] For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.167-135.169 and 137.34.
[32] AI, p. 2 and fn. 9 referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.167 (Cuba), para. 135.168 (Maldives) and para. 135. 169 (Thailand).
[33] JS14, para. 10.
[34] *Ibid*, para. 21; See also AI, p. 5. AI made recommendations (p. 6).
[35] *Ibid*, paras. 26 and 29. JS14 made recommendations (p. 11).
[36] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.73, 135.75 -135.78, 135.81 and 135.170-135.172.
[37] AI, p. 3. AI made a recommendation (p. 6).
[38] LEPAD, p. 4. LEPAD made recommendations (p. 6).
[39] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.68-135.70, 135.72, 135.73, 135.75, 135.80, 135.82, 135.106-135.112, 137.10-137.13, 137.22, 137.24, 137.28-137.30.
[40] AI, p. 4. AI made recommendations (p. 7); See also JS10, para. 3.6.1. JS10 made a recommendation (para. 3.6.1).
[41] JS10, para. 3.5.1. JS10 made recommendations (para. 3.5.6).
[42] IHRC, pp. 4-5.
[43] SRW, para. 8. SRW made recommendations (p. 4).
[44] JS16, p. 8. JS16 made recommendations (p. 9).
[45] AI, p. 5. AI made recommendations (p. 7).
[46] JS18, p. 8.
[47] AI, p. 1 and footnote 4, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 137.7 (Spain). AI made a recommendation (p 6).
[48] *Ibid*, p. 1 and footnote 1, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.69 (Switzerland), para. 135.72 (Canada), para. 135.73 (Hungary), and para135.74 (Sweden); See also HRF, para. 11.
[49] PRAWA, para. 9. PRAWA made recommendations (para. 11).
[50] *Ibid*, para. 9. PRAWA made recommendations (para. 11); See also HRF, para. 12. HRF made recommendations (para. 18).
[51] *Ibid*, para. 10. PRAWA made recommendations (para. 11).
[52] JS3, paras. 10 and 11, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.122 (Canada) and para. 135.128 (Holy See); See also JS7, p. 7, para. 10.
[53] *Ibid*, para. 32, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.82 (Cape Verde). JS3 made recommendations (paras. 40-42); See also JS7, p. 4, para. 1.
[54] HRF, para. 15.
[55] AI, p. 1 and footnote 3 referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 136.69 (Switzerland), para. 135.70 (UK), para. 135.71 (USA), para. 135.72 (Canada), para. 135.75 (Czech Republic) and para. 135.79 (Ireland).
[56] JS3, para. 18. JS3 made recommendations (paras. 28-30).
[57] *Ibid*, para. 64. See also JS7, p. 3, para. 13.
[58] *Ibid*, paras. 65 and 66. See also JS4, para. 35; JS7, p. 4, para. 15.
[59] AI, p. 1 and fn. 5, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para.135.34 (Belgium), para. 135.106 (Germany), para. 135.108 (Czech Republic) and para. 135.109 (France), para. 135.122 (UK) and para. 135.118 (Belgium).
[60] JS10, para. 5.1.3. JS10 made recommendations (para. 5.1.3).
[61] AI, p. 1.
[62] JS12, para. 3.2. JS12 made a recommendation (p. 5).
[63] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.71, 135.79, 135.113, 135.114, 135.116-

135.121.

64 FLD, para. 15. FLD made recommendations (para. 27).
65 HRF, para. 14. HRF made a recommendation (para. 18 (c).
66 LEPAD, p. 6. LEPAD made recommendations (p. 6).
67 JS4, para. 5.
68 *Ibid*, para. 26. JS4 made recommendations, p. 8.
69 LEPAD, p. 3, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.117 (Austria), para. 135.118 (Belgium) and para. 135.119 (Switzerland).
70 PRAWA, para. 7. PRAWA made recommendations (para. 8); See also HRF, para. 14, HRF made a recommendation (para. 18 (b).
71 JS18, p. 9. JS18 made recommendations (p. 10).
72 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.122-135.128, 135.160 and 137.31.
73 JS4, para. 5.
74 JS15, p. 4, JS15 made recommendations (p. 5).
75 JS3, para. 3.
76 *Ibid*, para. 4. JS3 made recommendations (para. 6).
77 *Ibid*, para. 31 referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.66 (Argentina).
78 JS15, para. 6. JS15 made recommendations (p. 6).
79 JS3, para. 67, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.93 (Holy See); See also JS7, para. 14; JS15, p. 5.
80 JS11, para. 25. See also JS6, p. 2. JS6 made recommendations (p. 4).
81 *Ibid*, para. 26. JS11 made recommendations (para. 26).
82 JS2, para. 3.1 and Annex, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.69 (Switzerland), para. 135.70 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), para.135.71 (United States of America), para. 135.72, para. 135.75 (Czech Republic), (Canada), para. 135.159 (Tunisia), para. 135.160 (Djibouti) and para. 137.7 (Spain). See also A/HRC/25/2, para. 467 for Nigeria's position on the recommendations. JS2 made recommendations (paras. 6.2 and 6.6).
83 FLD, para. 4 and endnote 1, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.159 (Tunisia) and para. 135.160 (Djibouti).
84 *Ibid*, paras. 2 and 6. FLD made recommendations (para. 27); See also JS10, para. 9.1. JS10 made recommendations (para. 9.1.); JS6, p. 2. JS6 made recommendations (p. 4). PJ, p. 6. PJ made recommendations (p. 6).
85 JS16, pp. 6-7, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.57 (Malaysia). JS16 made recommendations (pp.7-8).
86 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.90 and 135.91.
87 JS4, para. 8.
88 *Ibid*, para. 15, JS4 made recommendations (p.4).
89 *Ibid*, para. 40.
90 JS15, pp. 3-4. JS15 made recommendations (p. 4).
91 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, para. 138.6.
92 JS11, para. 8. JS11 made recommendations (para. 45).
93 *Ibid*, para. 44. JS11 made recommendations (para. 45).
94 *Ibid*, paras. 19-21. JS11 made recommendations (para. 28).
95 JS12, para. 3.8, JS12 made a recommendation (p. 7).
96 JS2, para. 2.1, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 137.31 (United States of America). See also A/HRC/25/2, para. 467 for the position taken by Nigeria on the recommendation. JS2 made recommendations (para. 6.1).
97 ICTUR, p. 3.
98 *Ibid*, p. 4.
99 ERI, p. 4.
100 JS15, p. 11.
101 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.129, 135.130, 135.132-135.134.
102 JS13, para. 22, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.130 (Ecuador) and para. 135.132 (Malaysia); See also AI, p. 2.
103 JS13, para. 23. JS13 made recommendations (paras. 51 - 54).
104 AI, p. 2 and p. 5. AI made recommendations (p. 6).
105 JS10, para. 4.1.1.
106 JS13, para. 29.
107 JS4, para. 6.
108 JS17, p. 7.
109 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, para.135.135-135.140 and 135.143.
110 JS1, para. 11.
111 JS16, para. 17.

[112] ADF, para. 14. ADF made a recommendation (para. 24).
[113] JS1, paras. 7 and 8. JS1 made recommendations (p. 7) See also JS15, p. 11. JS15 made recommendations (p. 11).
[114] JS10, para. 2.3.1. JS10 made recommendations (para. 2.3.1); See also P', p. 4. PJ made recommendations (p. 4).
[115] WRAHP, p. 4.
[116] JS1, paras. 2, 3 and 6). JS1 made recommendations (p. 7).
[117] *Ibid*, paras. 13 and 14. JS1 made recommendations (p. 7.).
[118] *Ibid*, paras. 16 and 17. JS1 made recommendations (p. 7).
[119] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.144-135.55 and 136.1-136.3.
[120] WRAHP, p. 5. WRAHP made recommendations (p. 5).
[121] See e.g. A/HRC25/6, para. 135.144 (China) and para. 136.1 (Indonesia).
[122] JS3, para. 56. JS3 made a recommendation (para. 60). See also JS15, pp. 11-12.
[123] JS16, p. 19. JS16 made recommendations (pp. 19-20).
[124] JS3, para. 57. JS3 made a recommendation (para. 61).
[125] JS16, p. 18. JS16 made recommendations (p. 18).
[126] JS8, para. 30.
[127] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.21, 135.45, 135.46, 135.55 - 135.65, 135.97, 135.100-135.102, 135.104, 135.105, 137.8, 137.16 and 137.27.
[128] JS15, p. 2. JS15 made recommendations (p. 15).
[129] JS1, para. 19 and endnote 80, referring to A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.94 (Canada), para. 135.97 (Maldives) and para. 135.98 (Philippines).
[130] *Ibid*, para. 19. JS1 made recommendations (p. 7); See also JS16, p. 9. JS16 made recommendations (p. 10); PRAWA, paras 12 and 13. PRAWA made recommendations (para. 14).
[131] WRAHP, p. 2. WRAHP made recommendations (p. 3).
[132] JS16, p. 10. JS16 made recommendations (p. 11); See also PJ, p. 5. PJ made recommendations (p. 5).
[133] JS13, paras. 4-6, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.21 (Ireland), para. 135.62 (Algeria), 135.63 (Angola) and para. 135.64 (Benin). JS13 made recommendations (paras. 44-47).
[134] JS13, para. 28.
[135] PRAWA, para. 15.
[136] PJ, p. 3. PJ made a recommendation (p. 3).
[137] JS10, para. 2.2.1. JS10 made a recommendation (para. 2.2.1).
[138] *Ibid*, para. 3.1.1. JS10 made recommendations (para. 3.1.1).
[139] JS16, p. 14.
[140] *Ibid*, p. 16. J16 made recommendations (p. 16).
[141] CITAD, pp. 1-2. CITAD made recommendations (pp. 5-6).
[142] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.13, 135.26, 135.49, 135.52, 135.83-138.89, 135.92-135.95, 135.161 and 135.163.
[143] JS4, paras 23 and 24, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.83 (Montenegro), 135.86 (Poland) and para. 135.115 (Belgium); See also JS13, para. 13, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.94 (Canada).
[144] JS4, para. 18, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.52 (Sudan). JS4 made recommendations (p. 5).
[145] *Ibid*, para. 32.
[146] GIEACPC, p. 2.
[147] JS12, para. 3.4. JS12 made a recommendation (p. 5).
[148] JS16, pp. 13-14. JS16 made recommendations (p. 13).
[149] PJ, p. 4.
[150] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.156-135.159 and 135.162.
[151] JS16, p. 20, referring to A/HRC/25/6, para. 135.61 (Cambodia), para. 135.147 (Slovakia) and para. 135.156 (Egypt). JS16 made recommendations (p. 21).
[152] JS15, p. 12 JS15 made recommendations (p. 12).
[153] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.164 and 137.33.
[154] JS3, para. 51.
[155] *Ibid*, para. 52.
[156] JS9, paras. 7, 11 and 12. JS9 made recommendations (p. 6); See also JS16, para. 22.
[157] MUTUK, pp. 1-3. MUTUK made recommendations (p. 6).
[158] JS14, para 46. JS14 made recommendations (p. 11).
[159] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/25/6, paras. 135.166 and 137.32.
[160] JS15, p. 13.
[161] PJ, p. 4. PJ made recommendations (p. 59).